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THE MINISTERIAL REFORM BILL.

There are only, we think, two alternatives open in the matter of a reform of the representation, as things now are in this country. One is a bill of the kind which might be expected from Mr. Bright—a democratic bill—disfranchising wholesale, and allowing the principle of numbers to acquire the ascendancy in the constitution. The other alternative is a compromise—not perhaps Lord Derby's compromise in all its details, but still something of the same kind. Between these sort of measures, men must fix their choice, or allow the whole question to stand over again for a fresh number of years—in fact, till the public has come to take a more overwhelming interest in it than it does just now.

As we think that another postponement of this subject, indefinitely, would be making the House of Commons look very foolish and inconsiderate, it is our business to make the most of the alternatives in question. And we do not the least expect, to begin with, that a measure founded on Mr. Bright's principles—as expounded in his speeches—can possibly pass. There is no party, no organisation, in its favour; for the strongest Reformers are divided on points of Reform; the ordinary wealthy Liberals of the middle-class are distinctly opposed to the numbers principle; nor is there an amount of agitation out-of-doors which makes it worth anybody's while to become a violent convert to it. A compromise, then, is the only practicable affair; and whether carried out by Lord Derby or Lord John Russell, this is what we shall infallibly have. As a contribution to the discussions which must precede any practical action by Parliament in the matter, let us analyse and endeavour to explain the kind of compromise proposed by the Government. That it is essentially such, is clear enough; for its Liberalism has cost the Ministry two members, and its Conservatism has cost them the favour of Mr. Bright.

The frame of the constitution—the mechanical form of it, so to speak—is not altered by this bill. No new principle is brought into play, though more room is given for the working of existing principles. This is seen, when we contemplate, in their order—1st, the change proposed in the matter of suffrage; 2nd, the change proposed in the matter of seats.

With regard to the first of these objects, this is certainly a bill which will enlarge the suffrage considerably; and that both in country and town. The provision for a £10 occupancy voting in the counties, is far beyond the views of those whose sympathies are exclusively rural; and will take in many a man in country places hitherto treated as unfit to share in political

power. This is the point which has frightened the Henley school, and which exposes the Ministers to a high Tory opposition. But surely there was little ground for alarm. The rural "ten-pounder" is less rural than the farmer who votes under the Chandos clause; but his position and interests connect him with the land, and in no way, that we can guess, dispose him to give the landed interest anything but fair play. But we consider a widening of the county constituency necessary as a set-off against a tendency frequently commented on, now-a-days—the tendency towards big farms. In some places, it is difficult to get tenants for these, from their size and the capital they require, and a kind of under-growth of aristocracy

as shall be found to have considerably out-grown the old limits?

The increase of county voters is estimated, we are told, at 200,000. That of borough voters will necessarily also be large, for the measure adopts several of those plans for increasing the suffrage, which have been discussed in Britain of late years. Of these, the most important are the savings' banks and eight-shilling-lodger clauses, which will necessarily add numbers to the voting lists—numbers which are to be re-inforced, also, by professional men of several kinds. We have never shared the objections made by some people to "fancy franchises," as they are called; nor, indeed, do we quite understand the force of

whatever sarcasm may lurk in that epithet. The possession of some property or some cultivation is a matter of fact, and an important one, too; since if these were to go for nothing, social stability of any kind whatever would soon prove impossible. We shall be told that the tests in question will exclude the "working classes," but this we doubt; and it is certainly not universally true, even taking the term in its narrowest signification. Plenty of men belonging by birth to the humblest families would be included by the eight-shilling clause; and of these a considerable number would enjoy the savings' bank advantage. Besides, supposing you do pitch the test, tolerably—moderately—high, isn't the effect of that to give a stimulus to the industry and providence of great masses of the people? It is not our custom to cant; and we have opposed a Maine Law, for instance, many a time. But, certainly, when we remember how much is spent in liquor in the kingdom every year, we may well ask whether it isn't in the power of many a man to pay a little out of his wages (for that is what it comes to) for the privilege of helping to elect the member for his neighbourhood? The right to political power is something to be earned, and has always been



THE SISTERS.—(FROM A PAINTING BY G. SMITH, IN THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.)

—an aristocracy of farmers—is forming itself, which requires to be checked by a wider suffrage of the kind under discussion. While this view will have its weight with reformers, a provision in the bill, connected with this branch of it, is likely to be less popular. We allude to the arrangement by which the forty-shilling freeholders, living in towns, are to lose their county votes; an arrangement more perilous to the bill than any other comprised in it. The exact effect of this change can hardly be appreciated till the new "boundary" organisation is also better understood; but it is certain that it must deprive many thousands of a right which they at present enjoy. Can the difficulty be at all met by adding a member to such boroughs

so in every constitution the world has ever seen. But in order to determine who has earned it, some practical tests can alone be resorted to.

The Government measure, we repeat, is a compromise, and cannot be judged except by comparison with rival schemes. In the matter of seats, its diversity from Bright's plan is more striking than even in that of suffrage. It adds to the seats of some counties: it gives them to some towns which the industry of late years has been swelling rapidly in importance; and it takes away a handful of second seats from some country towns of minor importance. But this is all in a department in which Mr. Bright brandishes the axe of a forester; and it is on the

suffrage side of affairs that the sympathies of Liberals are chiefly appealed to by it. Mr. Disraeli's defence of Arundel, as virtually the only Roman Catholic seat, was philosophical. But we should have liked to see more havoc among pocket-boroughs, for which no such plea can be put in. Perhaps, however, we shall have plenty of this, when Lord John's sense of the imperfections of the bill makes him resolve on something more extensive; when (as he must, if such be his policy) he applies the knife to the fatted calf, Tavistock, as a hospitable offering to democracy.

The period between this and Monday fortnight will be one of much political interest, and of not a little intrigue. We disclaim all attempts to predict the probable results of either; further than that, we feel sure that the country does not want a sweeping measure, and will not insist upon such. It may be in the power of active old-party stagers to deal with members of strong opinions for the overthrow of the Ministerial bill; but it is not in their power, we think, to pass a much more advanced one just now. Here we have some more seats, many more voters, a little disfranchisement, and a good deal of improvement in details, yet none of the vital principles of the Constitution hurt. In our opinion, accordingly, we may go further and fare worse than will be our case if we accept this last Reform Bill, as one capable, with some modifications, of meeting the requirements of the present time.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

WHILE the Emperor of France is still pushing on his preparations for war, his subjects generally are praying for peace, if we may judge from the reports from the rural districts especially. Already trade is suffering to a great extent from the mere apprehension of hostilities. The Pope's communication requesting the evacuation of his dominions by the French and Austrian troops has not added to the hopes of the French public, it seems, although Napoleon, contrary to all expectation, has resolved to withdraw his men. There is a rumour that an Army of the Alps has been resolved on, and that General M'Mahon is appointed to the command.

M. Alessandri, Minister for Foreign Affairs in Moldavia, has been received by the Emperor.

An increased dotation to the imperial family has been voted—only two members opposing the appropriation. Of the original sum of 1,500,000fr. a year, the Emperor allotted 1,000,000fr. to his uncle Jerome, 200,000fr. to the Princess Mathilde (who, as the wife of Prince Demidoff, was already rich), and 300,000fr. to his cousin Prince Napoleon. The additional 700,000fr. a year now taken, though voted pursuant to the original system as an augmentation of the revenue of the princes and princesses of the imperial family, is in fact all wanted for the Prince Napoleon, and will bring up his income from the country, besides house-room, &c., to 1,000,000fr., or £40,000 sterling a year. The Prince is represented as holding the most turbulent opinions, and to be extremely anxious to reverse the Treaty of 1815 by the sword.

Cabinet squabbles and ministerial changes are talked of, as well as that the dignity of Grand Admiral is to be re-established in the person of the Prince Napoleon. Will this appointment carry a salary also?

SPAIN.

SOME journals having published a telegraphic despatch announcing that an alliance, offensive and defensive, had been entered into between Spain, France, and England, for the defence of the Island of Cuba, the semi-official "Hojas" says—"We have reason for asserting that this despatch is false." The semi-official "Correspondance," on its part, denies that there was any truth in another rumour current to the effect that a treaty of peace has been signed between Spain and Morocco; but it says that, by the intervention of the Spanish consul at Tangiers, aided by the English consul-general, the relations between the two countries are now on a satisfactory footing.

AUSTRIA.

LORD COWLEY, with his family and two *attachés*, arrived at Vienna on the 27th ult., and next day had an audience of the Emperor. A grand dinner was given in his Lordship's honour, at Court, on Tuesday. All the Ministers and foreign ambassadors were invited. It was reported in Vienna that his Lordship was commissioned to suggest to the Austrian Cabinet—that Austria should withdraw her forces from the Roman States, France doing the same; and that Austria should renounce all treaties formed with the Sovereigns of Italy after the great treaty of 1815. Agreeing to the above, the great Powers would then secure Austria her rights to Lombardy. But she under no circumstances is to occupy any State of the Italian peninsula in future, even if called upon to do so by the sovereign of the State. A similar mission was projected for Prince Frederick-William of Prussia, but that has been abandoned.

All furloughed soldiers belonging to certain regiments stationed in Italy are recalled. It is reported that Baron Hess will be raised to the dignity of marshal, and that he will be placed at the head of the Italian army, should war ensue.

ITALY.

CARDINAL ANTONELLI has announced to the Austrian and French ambassadors, that the Pope is ready to make arrangements for the evacuation of his territory by the French and Austrian armies.

The military preparations of Austria are accelerated, and defensive works continue at Pavia. The Lombardo-Venetian Railway is said to have been placed at the disposal of the chief commander, and all private traffic stopped for three days, to facilitate military movements between the camp at Cremona and the fortresses of Verona and Mantua. Trieste and Laybach are to be strongly fortified. Count Giulay, commander-in-chief of the Austrian forces in the Lombardo-Venetian Provinces, arrived at Mantua on the 20th, and after holding a review of the garrison, set out again for Verona.

The news from Piedmont as well as from Lombardy continues to show great excitement. A congratulatory address, which the King of Sardinia received from the National Guard on account of his daughter's marriage, testifies strongly to the wish of the people for a war undertaken to liberate the remainder of Italy. The address concludes as follows—

"Sir, the auspicious marriage which adds the bonds of blood to those of friendship between your royal dynasty and that of the Emperor Napoleon, at the same time unites the two nations with stronger bonds. Whenever your fate shall decree that these nations shall without delay cause the cry of grief to cease which arises towards your Majesty from so many parts of Italy, then, sir, the National Guard of Turin, faithful to their standard, and full of trust in their King, will bless the happy moment, second your brave army, and join with it to procure the speedy triumph of a just cause. While this is preparing, they humbly lay their respectful homage and congratulations for this happy marriage at the foot of your Majesty's throne."

A collision between some Modenese soldiers and Sardinian peasants, on the frontier in the neighbourhood of Sarago, is talked of.

There are many signs of increasing ferment. Count Emilio Dandolo, an influential member of the patriotic party, well known for his services in 1818-9, died at Milan lately. At his funeral there was a demonstration of popular opinion—street rows, civilians wounded, and many arrests. On the 23rd ult., a disturbance broke out before the theatre of La Scala, where a bal masqué was to be held. An *émeute* has taken place in the public school of San Alessandro; and a farmer near Pavia who had denounced some refugees has been assassinated.

King Ferdinand is now said to be suffering with a cancer in the leg. The Swiss serving in Naples, whose time of engagement is up, have demanded, and at once obtained, double pay for every day they now remain. The rumour of importing half a dozen regiments from Spain is renewed.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

SIR HENRY BULWER has addressed a note to the Porte relative to the disordered state of the finances. Various reports of ministerial modifications were current in the Turkish capital. The Porte has renounced the idea of sending the army of Roumelia to the Danube, the commander-in-chief in the former province having declared that the situation of Servia was serious, and that there would be danger in reducing the garrisons of Bosnia, Albania, and the Herzegovina. The Porte will, therefore, send troops from the capital and from Scutari to the number of twenty-four battalions.

Accounts from Bagdad report that Omer Pacha was closely hemmed in by the insurgents near that city, and was in a very critical position.

Prince Alexander John, of Wallachia and Moldavia, has not decreed the union of the Principalities, as was reported, but in a note addressed to the Great Powers, he has embodied the wishes of the people to that effect. M. Alessandri, Minister for Foreign Affairs in Moldavia, has arrived in Europe on this business. Sardinia, as well as France and Russia, is prepared to recognise the double election.

A constitution for Servia is said to be in preparation by Prince Milosch.

AMERICA.

THE Cuban question remained under consideration in Congress. This subject has now occupied much discussion. In the House of Representatives, the bill for the admission of Oregon into the Union had passed.

The Cass Yrissien Treaty had been signed at Nicaragua, and it was supposed Sir W. Gore Ouseley had likewise negotiated a treaty with Nicaragua on behalf of England.

From the West Coast of Mexico we learn that the British frigate *Alarm* had seized the Mexican war schooner *Iturbide*, in the port of Mazatlan, for interfering with foreign merchant vessels.

The "New York Times" informs us "that on the 11th of October, the American brigantine *Rufus Soulé*, which had cleared from Matanzas for the African coast, was boarded by the British steamer *Upper*—searched and burned. The American flag was flying at the time of the seizure, and the captain threw his papers overboard when called upon to show them. The circumstances of the case leave little room to doubt that she was a slaver."

The admission of Oregon into the Union was celebrated at Washington on the night of the 13th ult. President Buchanan had to appear at the window of the White House, and in the course of his address said:—He sincerely congratulated them upon the advent of another Sovereign State into the glorious confederacy of Republics. Expansion was in future the policy of our country, and cowards alone feared and opposed it. Thanking them for the honour paid him, the President concluded by calling for "Yankee Doodle," which was performed by the band. Vice-President Breckinridge, in another part of the city, having been called upon to say something about Cuba, remarked that they talked much, and did too little. When England wished to do a thing, she did it, and talked afterwards. If the Island of Cuba, instead of being placed at the mouth of the Gulf of Mexico, lay at the opening of the British Channel, England would have it in ten days. He was in favour of the acquisition of Cuba. He would not rob for it, but would act with any portion of his fellow-citizens in using all honourable means to acquire it.

CHINA.

LORD ELGIN returned to Shanghai on the 1st of January, after a successful expedition up the Yang-tze Kiang as far as Hankow, in lat. 30° 33' N., long. 114° 13' E. During his stay there the river fell so much that her Majesty's steamers *Furious* and *Cruiser* were unable to make their way down, and had to be left behind at Kin-kiang, near the mouth of the Poyang lake, some 460 miles from Shanghai. There they will have to remain till the spring. The gunboats *Nimrod*, *Lee*, and *Dove*, with one or two lorchaes, chartered for the purpose, were shortly to leave Shanghai with provisions and stores for the two steamers.

At Canton we regret to say fresh disturbances have taken place. A body of our troops, 700 strong, were out exercising some miles from Canton, near a village called Shek-tsing, and on their return were fired upon by a party of Braves. Our men returned the fire, and returned slowly towards Canton, followed for some distance by the Braves. A few of the Chinese were killed, but there was no loss of life on our side. After three days spent in organising an expedition, the village was attacked by our gunboats and troops about 2,000 strong. Two heavy batteries defended the approaches, but a simultaneous attack on both sides carried the place without loss. The batteries and village were destroyed, and some fifty or sixty of the Braves killed.

From documents which have been intercepted lately, it appears that the Braves are not acting from mere hatred to foreigners, but are encouraged by the high authorities at Pekin to resist and drive out the barbarian. The intercepted correspondence is between the Court of Pekin and the Fayune Committee (a body who were organised to act as the mouthpiece of the Braves after the fall of Canton). They are informed that the treaty of Tien-tsin was signed under compulsion, but is not intended to be adhered to.

We have also some news of the rebellion. A native reporter informs the "Friend of China," that "Chun-kum-kong, who has taken the title of Southern King, is making great success in his excursions, and has overrun the districts of Wye-chap and Hoe-kin, bending the people to his laws, and exercising great severity on all who oppose him. Riding in an imperial chariot, his majesty and power are become truly great, and the fame of his name is spreading everywhere." The reporter is no partisan of this Southern King, for in writing he styles him Chak-tow, the "Chief Thief" of the predatory band. We have a very sorry account of the rebels. "Their pretensions to Christianity are of the shallowest description, and they do not possess even a superficial knowledge of its tenets, much less of its practice. They are polygamists, opium-smokers, and the only Bible example they seem to follow is that of the Israelites in the conquest of Canaan. The whole country has been laid in ruins by them, the women carried off, the men pressed into their service, and fire and bloodshed mark their track everywhere."

IONIA.

As we announced in a second edition last week, the decision of the Ionian Assembly on Mr. Gladstone's proposed reforms was taken on the morning of the 17th, when it was unanimously agreed to reject them. Twenty-seven deputies were present, eleven having purposely absented themselves in order not to give their votes. The full number composing the house is forty-two; four members were, however, some time since declared unduly elected, and had to withdraw from the assembly. After having thus first refused the reforms *in toto*, the house proceeded to appoint a committee to draw up an official declaration on the part of the representatives of the Ionian people, stating their reasons. Mr. Gladstone is on his way home.

GERMANY AND THE WAR QUESTION.—The First and Second Chambers of Hanover have resolved upon requesting Government to obtain from the Federal Diet resolutions calculated by their unanimity and energetic execution to avert the threatening danger of war, but, if necessary, to repel with united federal power attacks on Austria or Germany. The works of the bridge over the Rhine from Strasburg to Kehl have been stopped, and the workmen paid off.

IMPERIAL SOLICITUDE.—The Paris correspondent of the "Independence Belge," writing on Saturday evening, says:—"To-day the Council of Ministers was convoked and presided over by the Emperor. His Majesty informed the council that the apostolic nuncio had officially demanded the recall of the French troops now occupying Rome, and that an affirmative reply had been given. His Majesty, in concluding his statement, used words to this effect—"You know, Messieurs, with what solicitude I have watched over the interests of the Holy Father; what zeal I have ever displayed in protecting his dignity. To-day he believes that he is able to dispense with the assistance of my government. I have taken the resolution to abandon him to the chances to which the obstinacy of his government exposes him, in not following my disinterested counsels." The same correspondent says, that all persons who know the country believe that if the French troops leave Civita Vecchia, a revolution will break out in Rome, and that the 18,000 men who compose the Pontifical army will be powerless to suppress it.

INDIA.

The last battle in which Lord Clyde has had to engage the Indian rebels, has been fought on the frontiers of Nepal. Nena Salib was repulsed and driven into the interior; and Jung Bahadur has not only announced his readiness to drive out the Nena and the Begum, but expressed his willingness to engage personally in the expedition. He will give up all insurges found in his territories. This is likely enough, considering that the Begum and her followers were plundering, fighting, or bribing at every step.

Lord Clyde had returned to Lucknow, and it was expected that he would shortly leave India for England. Sir Hugh Rose was talked of as his successor.

The Nawab of Furruckabad arrived at Futtighur on the 28th of January, as a prisoner, having given himself up to Major Bruce, of the Oude police.

The "Calcutta Englishman" says:—"The chief rebels have sought refuge in the great forests at the base of Nepal hills, some demanding an asylum, some asking assistance of the rulers of Nepal, whilst their followers are plundering the Nepal villages in the lower ranges of the hills, and carrying off the cattle grazing in the forests. One column of the enemy, after having been defeated by Brigadier Rowerott in Gorukpore, escaped to the south, but found it impossible to proceed further than Toolsepoore, when it was forced back into the Terai forests. Another division of the enemy taking its route along the northern banks of the river Sarda, skirting the forests, broke into Rohilcund, but was fortunately met by our troops, who signalised defeat them, and drove them back into the jungles with great slaughter, where they will remain until they can make some compromise or treaty with our Government. They will find food and shelter in those forests for a few months longer—that is, until the months of May and June, when the deadly miasma rises and renders them uninhabitable. The mountaineers drive all their cattle into their fastnesses on the approach of this much-feared season. If by that time the rebels have not harassed our Government into a favourable treaty, they must throw down their arms and seek refuge in the plains, taking their chance of the consequences. Death is certain in the Terai; it may not be to all of them in the plains. The English army must therefore form itself into an army of observation on this frontier, until these questions are settled; a prospect by no means pleasant to the army or to our financiers. In the south, after many wonderful escapes, battles, skirmishes, and many marches exceeding all belief, Tantia Topee and Feroze Shah have formed a junction, and made their numbers appear formidable. But in that country the war is carried on under other auspices. Brigadier Showers with his column came up with the combined forces of Tantia and Feroze Shah, after a prodigious march of ninety-four miles in three days, when he instantly fell upon them, and utterly routed them—for the time only, no doubt, as we expect they will again form a body of plunderers at some distance. They will be again and again met, until they can no longer resist. They, however, take a great deal of beating, which they are also sure to get; for with Showers, Michel, Napier hunting them down, they have no chance of remaining long in the field now."

It is reported that "besides the entrenched camps under construction in several districts throughout the North-West and Lower Provinces, the Government of India have under consideration a project for rendering railway stations in India capable of sustaining a short siege. It is proposed to surround the station work by a suitable ditch and a simple wall within the same, flanked by towers capable of being armed, but which might in peaceful times be used for store-houses; the whole of the buildings within the enclosure are to be loop-holed for musketry. An earth rampart may be constructed, should the necessity arise."

Her Majesty's 32nd, 74th, 84th, Military Train, and *Pearl* Naval Brigade, were to proceed home at once. The Viceroy has issued an order in which the valuable services rendered by the Naval Brigade are highly praised.

The new government arrangements are finally determined upon as follows: Mr. Edmonstone to be Lieut. Governor of the North-Western Provinces; Mr. Bayley to be Chief Secretary there; Mr. Cooper, late Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Oude, to succeed Mr. Edmonstone in the Foreign-office. We also hear that Colonel Durand is to be Resident at Indore, vice Sir R. Hamilton, whose retirement has been already announced.

LATEST NEWS.

THE "CONSTITUTIONNEL" announces that the French *corps d'armée* had been forthwith withdrawn to Civita Vecchia, there to await the transport vessels which will convey the troops back to France.

LORD COWLEY's mission may be regarded as over, for his lordship has arranged to leave Vienna on Saturday.

THE NEPAULESE have applied for British troops to enter Nepal, and Horsford's Brigade has accordingly been pushed across the Rapti. Lord Clyde is indisposed, and proceeds to Simla for the season. Tantia Topee's rear-guard was overtaken and beaten by Brigadier Holmes, at Sekur, on the 21st of January. The rebel loss was 100 killed, number of horses, and 500 stand of arms. Tantia was making for Beekaneer or Joudhpore on the 26th of January. Intelligence, however, from Indore of the 6th of February, states that he has turned again north in the direction of Munglowe, in the Shekawati country. Sir Hugh Rose is making active preparation for finally subduing the Rohillas.

LORD HENRY GORDON LENNOX has resigned his Lordship of the Treasury. He will be succeeded by Mr. Peter Blackburn, M.P. for Shirlingshire.

THE GRAND JURY have ignored the bill against Mr. and Mrs. Banks, charged with the murder of Mr. Parsons, at Andover. Mr. Coleridge, the junior counsel for the defence, subsequently made an application to Mr. Baron Watson that a pair of trousers (said to be blood-stained) that had been taken from the house of the accused by the police authorities, should be given up. His lordship said he could make no such order in the matter respecting the trousers. The grand jury having found "no bill," he could merely order that the prisoners should be at once discharged.

FIGHT IN THE INDIANA SENATE.—A collision recently occurred between Senators Gooding and Heffron, in consequence of some personal remarks made by both in the Senate some days before. During the fight a brother of Gooding interfered and struck Heffron on the head with a cane, wounding him severely; otherwise little damage was done to either party. Both were armed, but had no opportunity to use their weapons. The excitement in the Senate during the "difficulty" was intense.

ORSINI'S LEGACY.—The Paris correspondent of the "Express" says: "All the French newspapers state that the Princess Mathilde, accompanied by several members of her household, paid a visit to the Prefect of Police a day or two since, to inspect some old records which are kept at the prefecture. I have reason to think that the object of her visit was very different from the one alleged. About ten days ago, a person clad in the imperial livery presented himself at one of the railway stations, and asked for three boxes which the princess expected by train that had just come in, and which would be directed 'To be left till called for.' He was told that two boxes only had arrived; and, after repeating that he had expected three, he took the two away. The next day the missing box, bearing the same direction, arrived. The railway clerks at once sent it off to the Princess Mathilde's residence in the Rue de Courcelles. The hall porter, on being told the story of the other two boxes, said he knew nothing about them. The princess came down herself into the hall; the box was opened in her presence, and was found to contain a quantity of bombs, rather smaller than those used by Orsini, but of precisely the same character. The utmost alarm was naturally felt at the reflection that the other two boxes containing similar murderous materials must be concealed in Paris, and in the hands of daring conspirators. I am not sure whether it was on that evening or the next that the Emperor went to the Opéra Comique. Extraordinary precautions were taken on this occasion. I now hear that two squadrons of cavalry, a force quite unprecedented as a guard of honour for an ordinary visit to a theatre, were stationed on the Boulevards, and that all the approaches to the theatre were kept clear to an extent altogether unusual." An imperfect version of the above narrative cited by some English journals from the "Opinione" of Turin, speaks of a box of explosive shells having been sent to the Princess Clotilde.

LOSS OF THE PRINCE FREDERICK-WILLIAM PACKET.

The packet steamer, *Prince Frederick-William*, carrying passengers and the postal service between Dover and Calais, arrived opposite the entrance to the port of Calais, on Sunday morning, at about half-past six. Captain Pittcock, although it blew a whole gale, conceiving that he could clear the entrance as usual, steered for it, and was already within the two pier-heads, when a sea, raised by the tide and a tremendous gale, threw the vessel against the eastern jetty. Such was the violence of the shock that the larboard paddle was shattered, and the quarter stove in four places. Next moment the recoil of the shock and the receding of the wave threw her off, and she fell astern. It was now seen that her engines were disabled, and she drove along the coast for about 200 yards, when she grounded violently.

At this moment the captain and the crew had need of all their coolness and decision to pacify the passengers, and prevent them from crowding the boats which were being launched. One of these received passengers, who were happily landed, but unfortunately it was impossible for the boat to return to the ship to the twenty-eight passengers remaining, who, however, were some of them rescued by the *Endive*, another steamer of the same company, which towed the life-boat to the spot, manned by two French pilots and five English seamen, commanded by Captain Moniere, lieutenant of the Port de Calais.

When the life-boat reached the *Prince Frederick William*, Captain Pittcock unfortunately could no longer control the passengers, who threw themselves so precipitately into it that it upset. It could not be immediately righted, as almost all the shipwrecked persons held on to it on one side. Ultimately many gained the beach by swimming; others held on until the life-boat was righted, but three persons, one of whom was a Russian courier, were drowned. The remainder of the crew were landed afterwards without risk, as well as the despatches and mails. The vessel was destroyed.

This is one account of the disaster; the following story is contributed by "One of the saved":—

"I was rejoicing at having, as I thought, arrived in port safely after a rather tough passage, when the steamer struck several times against the rocks, and afterwards continued striking on the sands until she became completely beached, not in the Channel, but to the left of the pier. From a signal made by the captain to the mail guard that he would come on deck as he was not safe in the cabin, I thought his impression was that the vessel would have parted across the centre, and the captain, on being spoken to by a passenger about one hour and a-half after the occurrence, said the Calais people ought to have sent off boats an hour previously, but afterwards stated that no boat could live in such a sea, and that, as the vessel was aground, if she did not part in the middle the passengers were safe. Still the captain evidently thought it safer to get the passengers off, and about 1 a.m. obtained the assistance of a life-boat. At this time I understood one of the crew to say there were seven feet of water in the steamer; and I with others went on deck to enter the boat. Seeing the number of persons already in it, and that it was somewhat perilous to enter, I hesitated, when I was informed that 'I must go, that I could not stay in the vessel,' and I took the leap and reached the boat safely. I am somewhat confused on the point, but believe two entered after me; but I distinctly heard the crew urging others to enter, when a wave drove the boat with great violence against the pier, and all the passengers in the boat then turned over. The crew and all the passengers in the boat behaved with remarkable coolness, and went to the other side of the boat when they saw its tendency to go over, with the view of counteracting it, but it was too late, and all were thrown into the sea. I, with several others, held on to the lashings of the boat, which through that circumstance righted; but one after the other were washed away by the waves, and after an immersion of it appeared to me, near ten minutes, I regained the boat, and thence sprung to the steamer, was caught by the crew, and with the remaining passengers waited on board until about 11 a.m., when the tide had receded and we walked on shore.

"I do not blame the captain for advising recourse to the boat because the result proved it to have been a wrong step, but I think the directors of the company should hold an inquiry to enable him to clear himself from any charge of negligence, not only in striking the pier, but in allowing the life-boat to receive passengers on the windward instead of the leeward side of the vessel, which caused it to turn over."

THE PRINCES ON THEIR TRAVELS.

PRINCE ALFRED arrived at Alexandria on the 12th of February. He was to have been received with considerable ceremony by the British residents, but their arrangements were altogether upset by peremptory injunctions from England, in consequence of which all public demonstrations of welcome were reduced to the lowest possible point. A visit to the Viceroy was, however, a matter of necessity, and involved a certain degree of ceremonial. The Pacha was at the palace of Ras-el-Tin, in front of which the frigate cast anchor. A couple of hours later the Viceroy's state barge left the ship's side, conveying the Prince towards the landing-place of the palace, and with the Royal banner of England floating for the first time over the waters of Alexandria. The *Euryalus* manned her yards, and at the same moment the red, white, and blue ensigns of the British navy flashed forth at her mast heads, while her hull became momentarily hidden by the smoke of her guns. The salute was taken up by the batteries on shore and by the American frigate *Macedonia*, at anchor within about two cables' length of the *Euryalus*. Again the guns of the latter thundered forth her acknowledgment, the red ensign at her mainmast being the while successively displaced by the Turkish and American flags.

Said Pacha met the Prince on the steps leading to the door of the palace, and led him into the reception-room, where the usual pipes and coffee were provided. The visit was soon over, and was immediately returned by the Viceroy, who was received with the same honours that attended the landing of the English Prince. Here, however, all royal ceremonial came to an end, and since then Prince Alfred has ridden about, and gone out on shooting excursions, simply as midshipman of her Majesty's ship *Euryalus*.

Touss Pacha, the viceroy's son (whose portrait we engraved some time since), visited Prince Alfred on board the *Euryalus*. The little Pacha has barely attained the mature age of six years; and "as he strutted about the deck of the ship in the full uniform of an Egyptian general, with his hand resting on the hilt of his diminutive sword, he formed an amusing contrast with the quiet and gentle-looking young midshipman." When the little Pacha was shown the berth in which Prince Alfred slept, he was horrified, and pressed the poor Prince to go to the palace. Prince Alfred was to leave in a few days on a brief visit to Cairo.

The Prince of Wales appears to be enjoying his stay in Rome extremely. "His health and spirits are excellent; he is eager for information; and no servant could set about his sight-seeing in a more determined or methodical manner. Last week his Royal Highness quitted himself of the fine weather to visit almost all the antiquities of the southern and eastern part of the city from the Tiber to the Lateran, comprising what ancient Rome has to offer most interesting on the Aventine, Celian, and Palatine Hills. On Friday, he drove to Veii, accompanied by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and Mr. Pentland, besides the usual members of his suite. After visiting the citadel and other scattered objects of interest in that most forlorn of ancient cities, the party lunched under the trees that have long since resumed their dominion over extinct Etruscan palaces and temples. The Prince rode back with Lord Stratford through the beautiful valley of the Cremera, having fully enjoyed one of the most lovely spring days that this delightful climate can offer. On Saturday his Royal Highness went, under the guidance of Mr. Gibson, to visit some studios, amongst which were those of Mr. Penry Williams, the painter, and the sculptors Messrs. Gott and Gatrell."

ARBITRATION BETWEEN MASTERS AND MEN.—Mr. Mackinnon and Mr. Slaney have brought in a bill to establish equitable councils of conciliation and arbitration to adjust differences between masters and operatives. The bill enacts that councils may be formed consisting of not less than two workmen and two masters, nor more than six workmen and six masters, and the chairman. Such a council is to be licensed by the Home Secretary, and to have power to arbitrate in cases of dispute between employers and employed.

IRELAND.

THE MURDER OF MR. NIXON.—Proceedings in Parliament furnish the means of refuting a scandal set on foot by the "Nation." That journal insinuated that the Government were shielding the real assailant of the Rev. Mr. Nixon. It turns out that a witness deposed that one of the assailants was Mr. Nixon's son, who would appear to have been serving in the army. On inquiry by the police, it was found not only that the witness was near-sighted, but that Mr. Nixon's son was actually dining near Dublin at the time the murderous assault was made. Thus the calumny of the "Nation" is made manifest.

THE PHOENIX SOCIETY.—The first trial in connection with the alleged recent conspiracies took place at Mullingar on Thursday week. Martin Fellen was charged with having in his possession pass-words belonging to a secret society, containing the following sentences:—

"We expect war with England and France.
The Iris-Brigade is on the advance.
Let each man hold his station.
The navy is making preparation.
You seem ignorant—I am better bred.
The night is dark—as black as heresy.
That the trumpet of freedom may proclaim a war.
Hoist the French and American star.
The right hand to the nose and the left to the ear."

When arrested, the prisoner said the ticket belonged to the Shamrock Benevolent Society of New York. His trunk was searched: the rules of the American Society, the certificate of his naturalisation by the United States, and £38 in money, were discovered. After some evidence had been adduced, Fellen was found "Guilty," and sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

THE PROVINCES.

TERRIBLE STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION.—At Cardiff Docks a fearful steamboat explosion took place last week. The steamer was "blowing off" at a high pressure; and in order to hear the instructions of the captain, the man at the engine placed his hand on the safety valve to keep it down. Immediately afterwards, she blew up, and six men were killed amidst the general crash that ensued. Hundreds of persons at that period of the day were standing about the locks, and seven bystanders were wounded more or less. The master of the steamboat is among the dead.

MAJOR-GENERAL CHARLES HAVELock, the brother of the late Sir Henry, has been appointed Chief of the Constabulary of Lancashire.

THE GRAVE OF JOHN PARSONS COOK.—The tombstone of this gentleman, Palmer's victim, has just been placed in Rugeley churchyard. It is a solid block of Bath stone, about six feet in length, two feet wide, and above two feet high. The following is the inscription: "Sacred to the memory of John Parsons Cook, late of Calthorpe Lodge, county of Leicester, whose life was taken away on the night of the 22nd of November, 1855, in the 29th year of his age. Amiable and affectionate in disposition, kind and generous in his conduct, he was sincerely beloved, and will long be lamented by his kindred and friends." On the sides of the stone are inscribed the following appropriate texts:—"Enter not into the paths of the wicked, and go not into the ways of evil men; avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away; for they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence!" The other side—"Keep thy heart with all diligence; and ponder the path of thy feet; lest thou mourn at last, when thy flesh and thy substance are consumed." On the ends—"His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sin." And—"Whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil."

SUICIDE OF A CLERGYMAN.—The Rev. John Woodcock, vicar of Littlebourne, near Canterbury, committed suicide on Friday week. He went upstairs to his bed-room, and was so quickly followed by his wife, that he said, "What do you want up here?" She excused herself by saying that she wanted a pocket-handkerchief out of a drawer. Mr. Woodcock rejoined with "Look here!" at the same time holding a pistol to his head. And before his wife could seize his arm, the deceased dropped into her arms dead. An inquest was held next day, when the jury returned a verdict, "That the deceased shot himself while in a state of mental derangement." Mr. Woodcock was sixty-nine years of age, and had been in possession of his living since 1823, at which period he was also one of the minor canons at Canterbury. His irregularities soon interfered with a proper discharge of parochial duties, and he was obliged to absent himself from the parish. The archbishop called upon Mr. Woodcock to resign, and he accordingly resigned the minor-canonry, but retained the incumbency. This was thirty-two years ago, and since that time his conduct was far from satisfactory to his parishioners. Serious imputations against the moral conduct of the reverend gentleman obtained currency, and an inquiry was instituted by the churchwardens. Added to this, Mr. Woodcock's only daughter, who had left her home some years ago, had become chargeable to the union in which her father resided. His death is attributed to the shame and vexation entailed by this state of things.

THE SEASON AND THE CROPS.—Though there have been some considerable falls of rain during February, the season still continues remarkably dry. Numerous ponds and wells, which were quite exhausted in the autumn, are yet only partially filled, and unless we have much more rain before the summer, there will probably be a scarcity of water. The farmers and dwellers in the rural districts were never before made so sensible of the value of a plentiful supply of water as they have been during the past autumn and summer. Upon some of the light lands, we hear of complaints about the wheat plant, but on the loams and clays nothing can be finer than its present appearance. Notwithstanding the mildness of the winter, there is no undue luxuriance of plant, while the colour is rich and healthy. The dryness of the soil will account for this, as the moisture has been little more than enough to keep the plant in a vigorous state. The meadows and pastures have continued so dry and fresh that we have had young cattle and broad mares out of doors throughout the winter without shelter, and with but little provender, and they have all thriven well. All kinds of stock are remarkably healthy, and the farmers' prospects, independently of grain prices, are all that could be desired.

A CONSCIENTIOUS WITNESS.—Recently at Croston, a witness was called upon, and, on entering the box, had a Testament presented to him, but he declined to take the oath. Being asked his reasons for refusing to be sworn, he naïvely replied, "I'll tell a lie wi' ony man if England, but I'll not swear to it." The explanation was not deemed satisfactory, and he had to take the oath; it happened, however, that he could add nothing to the information of the bench on the question.

EXTRAORDINARY ACTION.—At the sitting of the Northern Circuit, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Saturday, Mr. Justice Willes and a special jury were engaged with a very curious case. It was an action brought by a farmer residing near Belford, against a chemist at Berwick, to recover the value of a flock of 700 sheep, which were poisoned under peculiar circumstances in the early part of last summer. The sheep, after being clipped, were dipped in a chemical solution bought of the defendant, and afterwards turned out into a large field. Immediately after they were put out to grass, the neighbourhood of North Northumberland was visited by a flood of rain, which greatly washed the solution from the fleeces of the sheep. The poison was washed into the grass, of which the sheep ate, and they nearly all died, with a donkey and an ox, which had also been grazing in the field. The shepherds also suffered severely from the effects of the poison, which got into scratches in their hands. Mr. Justice Willes, in summing up, said the verdict of the jury must be founded upon whether this was a reasonable and fit composition to be used according to the directions upon the packages. If they thought that the loss of the sheep could be reasonably attributed to no other cause, then their verdict must be for the plaintiff; but if the plaintiff had not made out this, then their verdict must be for the defendant. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £1,100.

GALLANT RESCUE.—A fire broke out in a three-storeyed house in Edge Street, Shudhill. A Mrs. Gee and two of her children were rescued with great difficulty; and a third remained in the burning house. Several men attempted its rescue, but were driven back by the smoke that issued in dense volumes from the window. After a few moments of dreadful suspense, a Mr. Bagshaw stepped from the crowd, ascended the ladder, and entered the room. He searched for the child, but could not find it, although he heard it crying. Repeatedly he came to the window for a fresh supply of air, and then turned back into the room to renew his search. After groping about on his hands and knees upon the floor for some time, he found the child, which he carried to the window, and handed to the men who were waiting on the ladder. He then descended himself, almost suffocated.

LOVE AND MURDER.—George Binning, a Sunderland miner, aged nineteen, has shot Margaret Hodgson, a girl of eighteen, whom he was courting. The young woman rejected his suit, she would have nothing to do with him. Then Binning, exclaiming that no one else should, drew a pistol, shot her in the head, and ran away. She is in a dangerous state.

DESPERATE ATTEMPT AT ESCAPE.—A sergeant was conveying a deserter from Manchester to Aldershot, when, as the train slackened speed on nearing Stafford, the deserter jumped out. The sergeant immediately followed his prisoner, who took across the fields in gallant style, and, throwing off his coat, swam the river. The sergeant also took to the water, and succeeded in capturing his man, after a run of 700 yards on the further side of the river. The deserter was then conveyed to the County Jail.

LOSS OF SIX LIVES BY FIRE.

ABOUT one o'clock on Saturday morning, a police constable discovered that the shop of a Mr. Reeves, an eating-house keeper in Great James Street, Whitechapel, was on fire. The inmates of the house were Mr. Reeves, his wife, and several children; Mary Wayland, the assistant cook; and Mary Jones, an aged woman, nurse to Mrs. Reeves. Scarcely had the alarm been given, when Mr. Reeves and his family appeared at the front windows of the upper floor, with the nurse and cook, all screaming and imploring help, for escape was cut off from below by the fire, which was already rushing up the stairs. A ladder was almost immediately procured, but it proved too short. The cook, however, determined on making an attempt to get out, and by the aid of her master she reached the upper spoke of the ladder, and got safely to the ground. The smoke could now be seen pouring through the windows at which the remainder of the family were raising the most piteous cries, when hope of relief arrived with the fire-escapes, by means of which two of the children were got down in safety. Constable Hobbs had gone up, and had secured Mrs. Reeves and one of the children, when some foolish person broke open the street-door, and consequently the flames were driven with tremendous force through the shop shutters and first-floor windows. The result was to set fire to the escape on which was the constable with Mrs. Reeves and one of her children in his arms, and he was so burnt that he was forced to loose his hold, and he fell with his burden to the ground with a frightful crash. The poor fellow was picked up almost insensible, the thigh of one leg and the ankle of the other were broken. The child was also insensible; but Mrs. Reeves appeared to be only slightly injured. By this time a vast concourse of people had assembled, and amongst the number two "ladies" in a cab, who, notwithstanding an earnest appeal for the use of the vehicle to take the sufferers to an hospital, refused; but the enraged bystanders ejected them. While this scene was going on below, a still more painful one was proceeding above. Some of Mr. Reeves's children had already disappeared from the windows, no doubt from the effects of suffocation; when escape-inspector Horne, finding it impossible to plant his escape in front of the building without its sharing the fate of the other, placed it against the adjoining house; and, having unshipped his short ladder, reached the roof, in the hope of being enabled thus to rescue those who still hung in agony and suspense to the front of the window. He had just completed his preparations when a loud crash was heard—the flooring had given way, and the unfortunate man, the nurse and two or three children, were plunged into the midst of the flames. Three-quarters of an hour elapsed before any engine arrived, and then it was quite too late to save the building. Several of the adjoining houses were much injured. The child who fell from the fire-escape died at the hospital, making the sixth victim by this terrible conflagration.

SERIOUS RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

A TRAIN which left the Euston Square station at 6.30 on Saturday evening, was passing an awkward curve near Redford, in Warwickshire, at "express" speed, when the engine and tender "left," rushed down an embankment into a ploughed field, and killed the driver, Ricket, and an engineer named Pilkington, on the spot. The stoker, poor fellow, was jammed fast between the locomotive and the tender, and there he stuck crying for help in agonising tones, whilst the steam, which had been shut off to stop the train, scalded him. The rest of the carriages were turned on one side, and the excited passengers were broken into from the top. Though directions were given to a number of foundry-men on the spot, they were so impressed with the accident, that some time elapsed ere the tender could be removed, and Kite, the stoker, conveyed to the infirmary. He died just as he reached the door of that institution. A man named Clayton who rode with the others on the engine, escaped with the loss of a hand. Fifty yards of the "permanent way" were completely torn up, and thirty yards of the cast-iron chairs split. A fine hunter kicked and neighed fearfully until taken out, when he rode off with his master to Leamington, and the news spreading, hundreds of the inhabitants reached the locality of the disaster in carriages, carts, and even Bath chairs, whilst hundreds more walked, so that a considerable staff of police was necessary to keep order. When the men had been at work some hours, another body was found under one of the carriages. The 12.5 train from Rugby (the driver not having heard of the accident) was only by a miraculous chance prevented from ramming into the confused mass of broken carriages, debris, and men. The accident seems to have occurred from one of the springs of the engine breaking.

ENGINES OF WAR.

WHEN all the signs of the times portend war, and that on a desperate scale, the anxiety here and on the other side of the channel to perfect the engines of war is natural enough. No subject engages more attention at the present time, and never before was it prosecuted so earnestly. The efforts which the Emperor of the French has long made to improve his artillery especially oblige us to look to our own. He is said to have perfected a wonderful gun. We read, "It is rifled; the projectiles are hollow, and produce a double effect—that of solid shot and of shell. Their form is conical, and leaden alettes give to the ball a precision never obtained before. In order to give an idea of the terrible effects of these new pieces, it suffices to say that a 12-pounder (new model) will, with one-half the number of shots of the old pieces of 24, produce the same effect; and the new pattern 12-pounder produces at 70 metres the same result as the old 24 at 35, and requires no more than one-sixth of the charge. The projectiles penetrate into a block of stone of the hardest cement, to an extent of 80 centimetres, and an enormous breach is made by the explosion. The advantages of the 4-pounder are still more remarkable. It requires but 500 grammes of powder to throw a ball a distance of one kilometrical league. The precision is such that at the distance of 3,100 metres it strikes a single man on horseback, and at that distance would destroy a body of cavalry or infantry." All the pieces constructed on the new system are loaded at the muzzle. Two hundred guns of this kind are already furnished to the Imperial Guard, and numerous others of various calibre are being cast. One with which they are now practising at Vincennes is said to weigh 2,500 lbs., and to require six men to work it. This gun can, at 2,000 yards, put 20 musket-balls in a target six feet square.

An Englishman, Mr. Shaw, claims to have invented an "Enfield rifle battery," consisting of twenty-four barrels, and weighing only 300 lbs., which can also put twenty balls in a target six feet square, at about the same distance; if this be so, we are prepared for the Vincennes gun in the field.

But the great secret of our Government at present is in the Armstrong gun, which has obtained for its inventor a baronetage and the appointment of "Engineer to the War Department for Rifled Ordnance." In order to secure the secret of this gun's construction, the Government suppressed Sir W. Armstrong's application for a patent, and will now have to bring in a bill to justify that proceeding. Great care is taken to prevent any unauthorised person from seeing the gun. During practising, strangers are kept at a distance, and when not in use it is safely housed. It would appear, however, that all these precautions proved useless; for the editor of the "Mechanics' Magazine," like a patriot as he is, has given to the world a detailed description of the construction of the gun. We were told before that "it is formed of an internal steel tube, bound over with strips of rolled iron laid on spirally, somewhat after the fashion of small-arm barrels, the alternate strips being laid in opposite directions." This system of construction is expensive, but it gives great strength with small quantity of metal. The internal steel tube is rifled with a very large number of small grooves close to each other. The shot or shell Mr. Armstrong usually makes of cast iron, of about three diameters in length, and covers it entirely over with thin lead, so that it may conform itself to the rifled interior of the bore. The gun is loaded from the breech in a new and ingenious manner, and herein, it would seem, is the chief excellency of the gun. With this shell Mr. Armstrong uses a percussion fuse of his invention, for causing the shell to burst on striking an object, in case the striking takes place before the time the fuse has operated. The Armstrong gun is much lighter, compared with the shot she throws, than the best guns now in use; and as for effect, we are told that on this system shot or shell, weighing eighty or ninety pounds, are cast a distance of from five to seven miles.

Another war-engine which will probably be adopted in our naval service, is Captain Norton's Liquid Fire Shell. It has already gone very successfully through experiments, intended to prove that one or two of these missiles fired into the hull of a vessel would set it in flames. The shell was tried against some pieces of scaffolding, which represented the sails of a ship; and, though they were soaked with rain, they took fire immediately. The same result followed when a shell, charged with about a tea-spoonful of the "liquid fire," came in contact with a timber boarding.

Then we have Mr. Warry's Breech-loading Gun, which, on a recent trial, fired ten rounds in a minute, a distance of 2,000 yards, and with good aim. What next? Already war has been made almost impossible with these inventions, or, at any rate, a pitched battle in open field. Let us hope that somebody will devise a means of blowing armies away column by column; and then, perhaps, we shall hear no more of warfare, save as a thing gone by.

CARDINAL ANTONELLI.

In the Volsian district, at present known as the province of Frosinone (Roman States), is situated the little town of Sonnino. It is distant about twelve miles from Terracina—in the mountains; and has acquired an unenviable notoriety as the haunt of brigands, who until lately were ever despoiling the surrounding district. Sonnino separates the Papal States from those of the King of Naples.

Disgusted at the lawless acts of their fellow-citizens, from which they had always held themselves aloof, the Antonelli family only waited an opportunity to quit their ill-starred birthplace. At last the chance offered itself: Dominico Antonelli was intrusted with the execution of some public works, with the proceeds of which he established himself at Terracina.

Dominico had five sons: four of these, and more particularly Gregorio the eldest, were engaged in the direction of their father's business; the third son, Jacomo, the subject of our memoir, was destined to the church.

Gregory XVI., in his old age, was much taken with Terracina; he frequently resided there, and the Antonellis having found favour in the eyes of those who surrounded his Holiness, gradually became known to him in his oft-repeated visits. One day the Signor Gregorio greatly distinguished himself. The town wished to vote some kind of a testimonial to the Holy Father, who had always manifested such interest in its welfare, but the council were divided as to the offering to be made. Signor Gregorio came to the rescue, and made them unanimous by announcing that, in the name of Terracina, he would present to his holiness Gregory XVI., the celebrated statue of Sophocles, discovered by him buried in his grounds, and now so much admired in the Latran Museum. The gift was accepted; and the name of Antonelli found favour at the Vatican.

In the meanwhile, young Jacomo quietly pursued his studies in the Collegio Romano, attracting attention by his bearing, regularity, intelligence, and above all by his self-control. Arrived at the age at which the pontifical statutes permit of aspiring to the prelacy, he was nominated president of one of the local criminal courts. We may judge of his zealousness in the discharge of his duties by the rapidity with which he was promoted from one office to another.

The Government of Rome, at that time, consisted of two Secretaries of State; one was Cardinal Lambuschini, who conducted the foreign policy; the other was Cardinal Mattei, the Home Minister. The Secretary-General of the latter department was replaced by Antonelli, now become *delegato* of Macerata, who had been chosen for this office on account of the energy he had on more than one occasion displayed. Placed in this position, he had frequent opportunities of addressing himself to the notice of Gregory XVI. The old Pope took a remarkable liking to the sprightly young functionary; he chatted with him, and learned to admire the justness and acuteness of his remarks. The favour in which Antonelli was held contributed greatly to his advancement; in a short time he was appointed Treasurer General in the place of Cardinal Testi. It was about this period that Gregory XVI.



CARDINAL ANTONELLI, SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE PONTIFICAL GOVERNMENT.

died. He was succeeded by Pius IX. The first whom his Holiness elevated to the Cardinalate was Antonelli, and he pronounced a most glowing eulogium on the new Cardinal's talents, when elevating him to the dignity. The events of 1848 cast a cloud over the brilliant horizon now opened to Antonelli. For a time he lost ground, and had to throw up his ministerial appointments in the great changes that took place. He did not, however, lose his influence at the Vatican. The Pope still held him in affection, and only sought an opportunity of conferring on him some charge that would attach him to his person.

This opportunity soon offered itself. Monsignor Pallavicini threw up his office of major-domo, which was immediately filled by Antonelli. This of necessity brought him into continual contact with the Sovereign Pontiff.

It was while Antonelli occupied this position in the service of the Pope, that the revolution, which finally compelled the representative of St. Peter to seek refuge at Gaeta, reached its height. Antonelli accompanied the Pontiff in his exile, remaining faithful to him through all his misfortunes, and returning with him to Rome on the re-establishment of order. Since then he has seen his power steadily increase, until he has been called upon to fill the very highest office in the Government, and to conduct public affairs at a most critical and dangerous time.

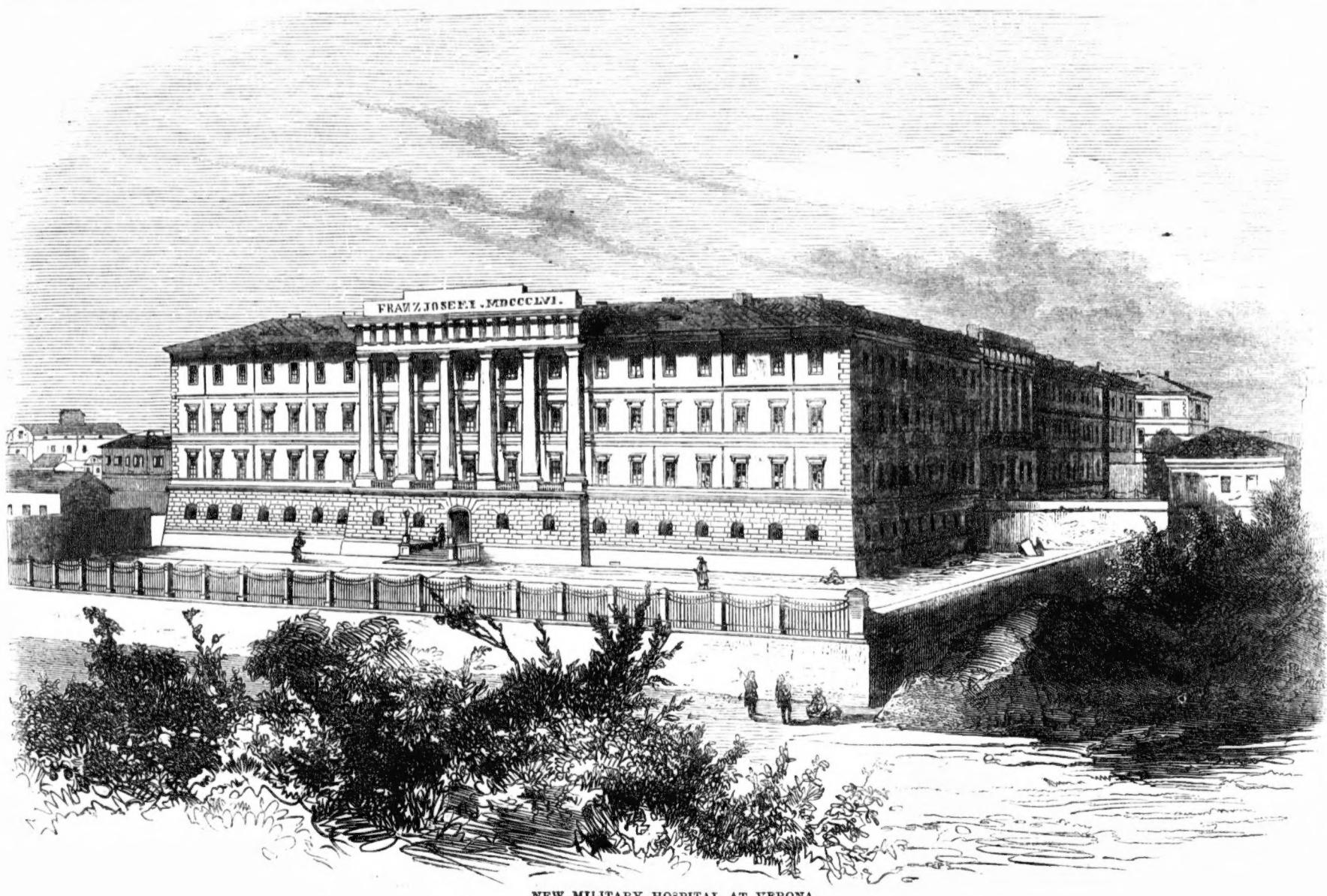
The portrait we engrave is due to the pencil of Rodolphe Lehmann, who for many years has resided in Rome, and whose *atelier* is much frequented by such tourists as are fortunate enough to get the *entree*.

THE DISTURBANCES IN ITALY.

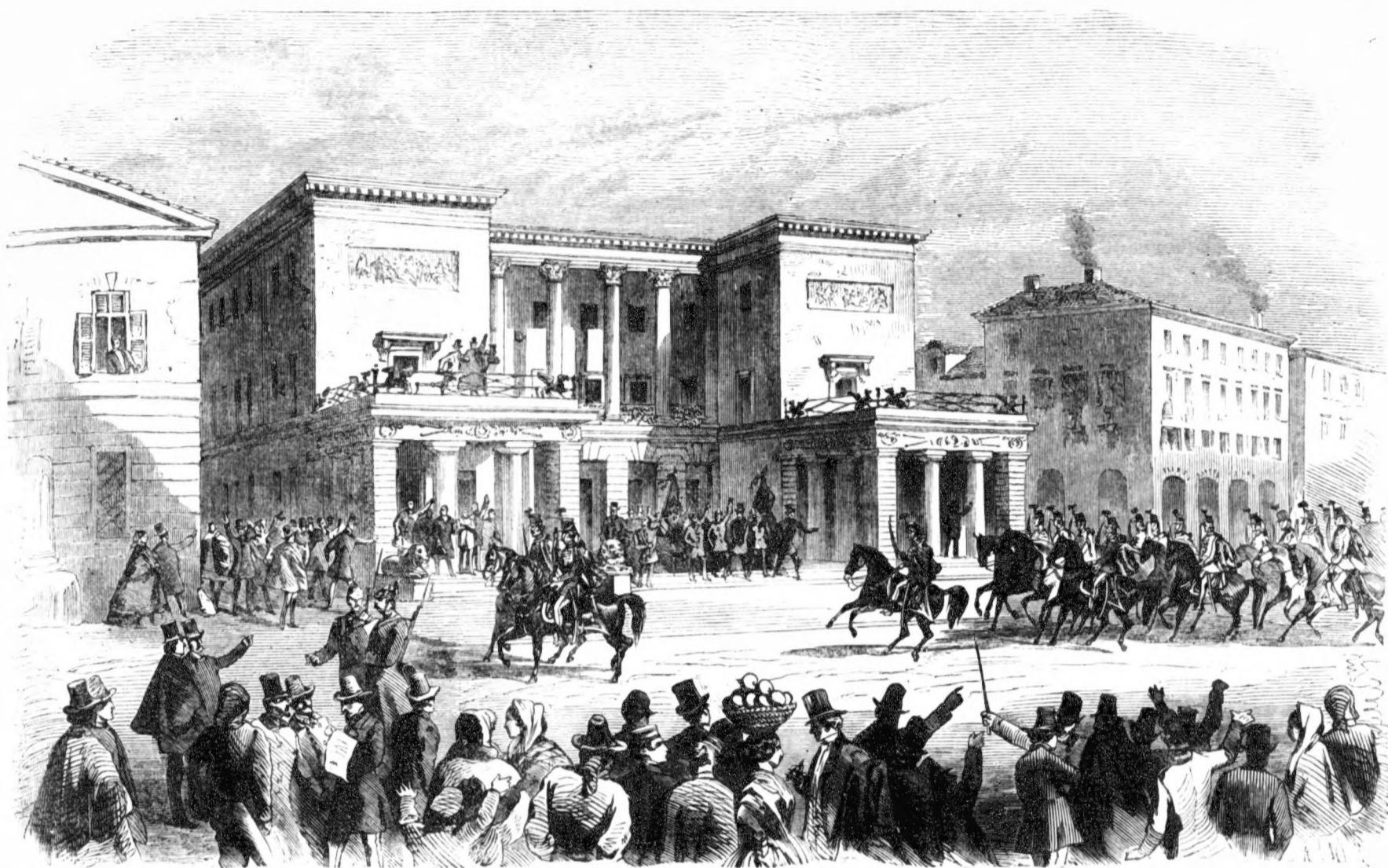
COUNT DANDOLO, one of the most influential members of the modern liberal party at Milan, and well known both for his political writings and the active part he took in the campaigns of 1848 and 1849, died recently at Milan, at the age of twenty-nine. His funeral was made the occasion of a popular demonstration; which succeeded so well, that numerous arrests and domiciliary visits have been made, the prisoners being handed over to a military commission.

It is not uncommon to get up these demonstrations at funerals. One of the most striking displays of popular feeling recently exhibited in Italy was made in this way at Pavia. Zambia, a professor of chemistry in that city, died at Treviso; but he had wished to be buried in Padua. The body arrived late in the evening at the railway station, where it was received by the professors and students of the University, and conveyed to the church, whence next morning they were to have followed it to its last resting-place. However, the authorities, fearing that a political demonstration would be made, caused the body to be interred the same night. Apprised of this, the students assembled *en masse* next morning, marched to the churchyard, caused the body to be disinterred, and, after singing a *de profundis*, again lowered the coffin into the grave, with a tricolor wreath resting on the lid.

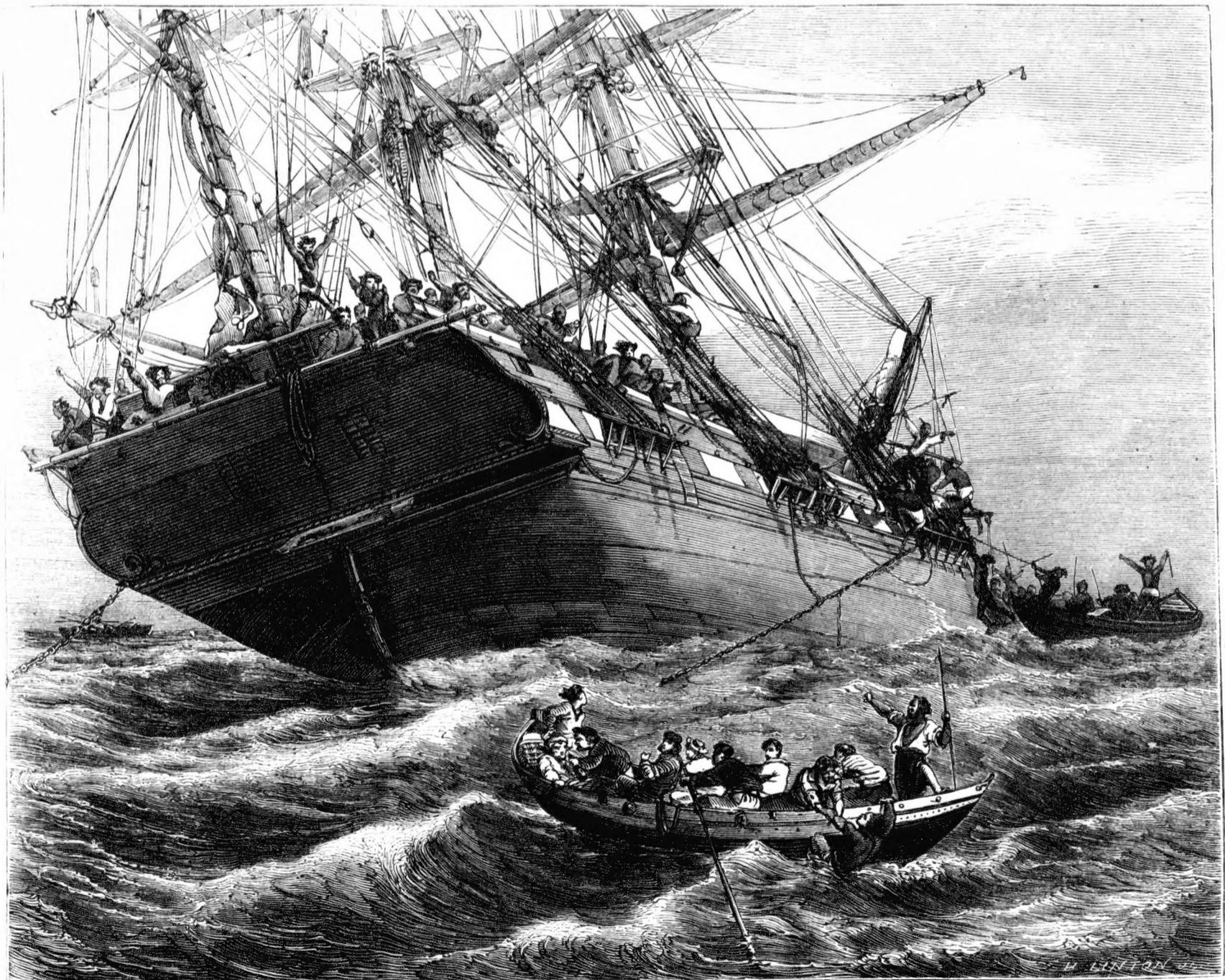
In the evening, the students assembled near the railway station; no harm was done, but an order was issued strictly forbidding any such assemblies. Next day a knot of students was congregated near the University, when a patrol of Hussars rode by, and ordered them to disperse. They received the order with groans and derisive cheers. This was enough for the hussars, who fired over the heads of the students and closed about them. The University was, in fact, surrounded, and a dash made to secure prisoners. There was some resistance to this measure, of course; and hence the affair took the character of a riot. The accompanying engraving represents this scene. We also give our readers a view of the new Military Hospital in Verona, a city likely to take some considerable share in any warlike "demonstration" in Italy.



NEW MILITARY HOSPITAL AT VERONA.



DEMONSTRATION BY THE STUDENTS OF PADUA.



ATTACK AND PILLAGE OF THE FRENCH BARQUE, PAULINE AND VICTOR, IN TORRES STRAITS.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. VILLETTÉ.)

ATTACK AND PILLAGE OF A FRENCH SHIP, BY MALAY PIRATES.

The *Pauline* and *Victoire* of Bordeaux, was working through Torres Straits, with an easy breeze; a careful look-out and attendance to her course being kept on board. About noon the second mate, who was mounted on the fore-yard-arm, for the sake of getting a more extended view of the dangerous coasts along which they were creeping, suddenly cried, "Luff two points." At this moment the lead only gave seven fathoms; the order of the mate was obeyed; the sea line was again cast, and still the same depth. In another minute the vessel dragged the bottom, and almost immediately stuck fast. However, by dint of extraordinary efforts, the crew succeeded in hauling the ship off, and three anchors were thrown out to keep her to the current, and prevent her drifting during the night.

Experience having taught the captain the dangers to be encountered in navigating these straits, he resolved to send the long-boat, well-manned, in search of some more favourable channel. While the men were at their dinner on the forecastle, and the captain seated in his cabin anxiously awaiting the return of the long-boat, a Malay pirogue had come alongside the merchantman. In another instant the savages who manned her were on board. The captain hastened on deck at the noise and desired the intruders to retire; he was instantly surrounded by a mob of wretches and fell beneath their clubs. The crew rushed forward to his assistance, arming themselves with anything that came in their way, and resolutely attacked the aggressors. For a time, they were successful, the pirates, unable to resist the determined front of the Europeans, gave way and were driven into the sea.

The captain, insensible from his wounds, was carried to the cabin. While the crew were thus occupied, twenty large pirogues, filled with armed men, were seen on their way to the ship. A few minutes' reflection showed them the utter hopelessness of opposing resistance to these great odds; one chance only remained, and that was to abandon the ship, and, profiting by the savages' thirst for plunder, to escape unscathed.

Placing the captain on a mattress, the crew lowered him into the boat, and also some charts, nautical instruments, and a few arms. Each man then took his place, and they shoved off amidst the yells and menacing gestures of the pirates, who had just boarded the ship. In a short time, they were joined by the long-boat; and after fourteen days of stormy weather, succeeded in reaching the Dutch settlement of Cupang.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 89.

MR. WARREN'S FAREWELL.

It is impossible to let the episode of Mr. Warren's farewell pass by without notice. It was so characteristic of the House and the man. Mr. Samuel Warren is an egotist of somewhat inflated proportions. When he entered the House in 1856, he was solemnly impressed by the greatness of the event. When he began life, he little thought of being a member of Parliament; and lo! here he is. He can enter that sacred door without let or hindrance. His letters are addressed "Samuel Warren, Esq., M.P." He is an "honourable member," has a voice in the imperial Legislature, and through that voice can influence the policy of the world. Nor perhaps did he deem the event less important in parliamentary history than it was in his own. He was the author of "Ten Thousand a Year," "The Diary of a Physician," which had sold by thousands, a work on elections, &c. &c., and Recorder of Hull. If he received honour, he also conferred it. And when, through dire necessity, he was obliged to retire from the House, he felt it to be impossible that his retirement should pass without notice. Ordinary members in considerable numbers leave the House as quietly as a cloud dissolves, but he was not an ordinary member. He must explain, bid the House and Speaker farewell, and, in short, have a scene—or, as an Hon. Member expressed it, go off, like a firework, with a bang. And then, in addition to Mr. Warren's egotism, we must also remember that Mr. Warren is a novelist, and that it is natural for novelists, and especially that class to which Mr. Warren belongs, to look upon the common transactions of life with a novelist's eye. Mr. Warren did so in his own case. His entrance into Parliament was the beginning of an episode in the story of his life—his parliamentary career was its progress—and his retirement its *dénouement*; and of course this must be made effective. He would explain—he would perorate—he would bid a solemn farewell to Mr. Speaker and the House—and then, in a grand Roman way, retire. Thursday, the 24th ult., was the day fixed for the solemn scene; and on Thursday Mr. Warren, who had been absent ever since he received the offer of place, walked into the House, and took his accustomed seat, duly primed for the coming event. The House was unusually full that night; and during the preliminary business of presenting petitions and asking questions, was noisy and restless—but this was nothing uncommon. "It will soon be quiet," doubtless thought Mr. Warren, "when I arise." And, of course, according to the novelist's rule, it ought to have been not only quiet but reverential; and, after attentively listening, should have greeted the retiring Member, as he marched out of the House, with a hearty farewell cheer. But the novelist's rules do not always hold good in actual life, as Mr. Warren soon discovered, doubtless to his great chagrin. The time at length came. Mr. Warren's name was called by the Speaker—for he had a notice upon the paper—and he arose. But, alas! the House was not reverential—not even decently quiet. On the contrary, it seemed to us that the buzz became louder, and the members more uneasy. On the Treasury Bench, the Ministers were in eager talk; on the opposite side, Lord Palmerston was chatting with Sir Charles Wood. At the bar, a crowd of members were buzzing, and laughing, and joking; and everywhere honourable gentlemen were flitting about as if business had been suspended. Mr. Warren of course went through his task; he tried to lift himself up to the "height of his great argument." He put on his solemnest manner and spoke in his most serious tones; alas! to no effect. In short, the scene was a failure; and, instead of Mr. Warren going off, like a firework, with a bang, he was fain to die away like a snail of a candle. He spoke for some twenty minutes, but what he said no one knew, and when he had finished, he slipped out by a side door without the faintest cheer to greet him. Indeed, few people knew that he was gone until the clerk's voice was heard calling in the next notice. Now, all this might have been foretold by any one who knows the House of Commons. This is not a Roman Senate, Mr. Warren, but an English House of Commons, not fond of display and characteristically intolerant of scenes. If you had been shot in the lobby, you might have been the subject of a passing notice; but even then probably all that would have been done would have been to order an investigation, and the House would have calmly proceeded with its business, like that cool gentleman that Mathews used to talk about, who, when his wife was reduced by spontaneous combustion to ashes whilst sitting at the dinner table, merely cried out, "Here, John, bring fresh glasses, and sweep away your mistress." The last solemn scene in the House, and the only one in our time, occurred when Peel died. Then the House was deeply affected, and, to show its respect for the great statesman, adjourned for several days; but between Samuel Warren and Sir Robert Peel, there is a wide difference, which fact Mr. Warren forgot. But, as an Hon. Member said, Warren is a good fellow, nevertheless, and clever too; and this is true, and in his prosperity we rejoice, and wish him long life to enjoy his salary. That he will do his duty in his new position ably and well, we have not a doubt; and so farewell, Mr. Warren, and hearty good wishes.

PEACE OR WAR.

On Friday night we had a really exciting scene. It was the night on which Palmerston's motion on the state of Europe was to come on. It was generally believed that this motion was intended to be hostile to the Government; it would be sure to call up the principal speakers; and, perhaps, there might be some smart fighting between the Government and Opposition chiefs. Under these circumstances, it was not surprising that the House should be crowded. And it was so. Upwards of five hundred members were present at five o'clock; the galleries were all full; and in the lobbies and passages of the House, knots of strangers were assembled, waiting and longing for admission. The ambassadors' gallery was never fuller—the

representatives of nearly all the European Courts were present; and the peers' seats were also full—the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Malmesbury, Lord Ellenborough, and a host of lords of lesser note, were in attendance. It very soon, however, got abroad that there was to be no fight. Some said there would be no talking at all upon foreign affairs, for Lord Palmerston had withdrawn his notice. But it was not so. There was to be no fight: that had been decided—the crisis was too momentous to be made the subject of a party squabble; but there was to be an explanation. But though there was to be no fight, there was evidently a breathless interest pervading the House—and well there might be. For several weeks rumours of war had come to us—troops were on the march, ships were being chartered, stores were preparing—in short, the continental atmosphere seemed to be overcharged, and we had come here to learn, if possible, whether, when, and where the storm would burst. When Lord Palmerston arose, the House became silent as death, and every head was stretched forward to listen. But it was when Mr. Disraeli arose that the interest became most intense. Lord Palmerston is great on Foreign Affairs—greater than the Chancellor of the Exchequer can pretend to be; but the Noble Lord is now in opposition, and Disraeli is in office, which makes a difference. Lord Palmerston could only try to elicit information—the Chancellor could give it. We have seldom seen anything like the deep anxiety which was evident on every countenance whilst the Right Honourable Gentleman was speaking. For full a quarter of an hour he delayed to give the information—this is his way—and at every step that he took towards the desired point the House became more anxious, until the anxiety became painful,

"And the boldest held his breath

For a time."

At length, however, the anxiously-expected answer to the solemn question, "Peace or war?" came. "I have the satisfaction to inform the House that we *have* received communications which give us reason to believe that ere long the Roman States will be evacuated by the French and Austrian troops; and that with the consent of the Pope." At this announcement, there broke forth one of those hearty cheers from all sides of the House which can only be heard there. After this, Lord John Russell spoke, and was of course listened to and cheered; but the spell was broken, and many of the members had gone to the lobbies to write to their constituents, or to the telegraph offices to flash the joyful news to the country papers—a large number of which go to press on Friday night. A London correspondent of a noted country paper says that Lord Derby was present, and that when Mr. Disraeli made his announcement, his Lordship audibly uttered some words to mitigate the strength of those which the Chancellor of the Exchequer used. But this is one of those inventions with which London correspondents are so fond of amusing their readers. Lord Derby was not there; and if he had been, he would no more have thought of doing such a thing than he would of interrupting a bishop while he was preaching.

FROM THE SUBLIME TO THE RIDICULOUS.

The motion before the House was "that the Speaker do now leave the chair," which means that the House do now go into committee of supply. On such a motion members may talk about any thing, and introduce all sorts of amendments. Mr. Williams, the member for Lambeth, generally has a motion, and on this occasion he had one for sending the estimates up stairs to be examined by a committee; but Mr. Williams came in late—his usual place was therefore occupied, and he dropped down into a seat on the cross benches *below the bar*. Now, when Lord John Russell sat down, there was great confusion in the House, in the midst of which Mr. Speaker put the question, "That I do now leave the chair," and then Mr. Williams ought to have brought on his little motion, but Mr. Williams was below the bar, from which position it is not in accordance with the rules of the House that a member should speak. Of this, Mr. Williams seemed, for a time, oblivious, but seeing the Speaker on his legs he awoke up, hobbled away to his usual place, and, to make matters sure, called out "Mr. Speaker!" but the noise was great, and before the words could reach the ears of Mr. Speaker, the question was put and carried, and Mr. Speaker had slipped out of his chair, and Mr. Fitzroy had slipped into his, and Mr. Williams had lost his chance. The House was excessively amused at the scene, and laughed uproariously; and the sight of the old gentleman suddenly waking up, hobbling up the House, calling "Mr. Speaker!" "Mr. Speaker!" was not a little ludicrous. But never mind, Mr. Williams, there are other estimates to come on yet, and then you can have your revenge.

THE GREAT QUESTION.

But the night of nights—the night big with fate—was Monday; for then it was that Mr. Disraeli introduced his long-talked-of, long-expected Reform Bill. The House had not been so full for years as it was on this occasion. We took stock of the members from our commanding perch, and we have to report that there were nearly 600 present. The largest number that was ever present was 622; the occasion was the contest between Mr. Manners Sutton and Mr. Abercrombie for the Speakership. At the contest between Mr. Goulburn and Mr. Shaw Lefevre the number present was 616; and we are not sure that there were not as many on Monday night. Every bench was full; the steps on the gangway were turned into seats; the members' galleries were crowded; and not less than fifty gentlemen were standing about, unable to find seats. Strange that, after spending some millions and a half of money in erecting this building, the House of Commons is too small to seat the members—but so it certainly is; and it is not to the credit of the architect that it is so. But though the number of members was so large, the excitement outside was not nearly so great as we have seen on former occasions. The galleries were all full, and there was a large number of strangers hanging about, unable to gain admittance—but there was little excitement manifested. It was very different in 1831-2. Then not only the lobbies and passages were crowded by an excited multitude, but Palace Yard and Parliament Street were in a ferment, and honourable members had to complain to the House of obstructions. By-the-bye, it was exactly twenty-eight years ago, on Tuesday last, since Lord John Russell introduced his first Reform Bill. Mr. Disraeli was travelling in the East then, but preparing to come home, fired with ambition, to try his fortunes in the House of Commons.

MR. DISRAELI'S SPEECH.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer began his speech at twenty minutes to five, and finished it at about eight o'clock, having occupied nearly three hours and a half. If a speech is great because it is long, or because it deals with great subjects, then was this a great speech—but otherwise it was not; on the contrary, it was wearisome and flat. The fact is, as our readers well know, that this sort of thing is not at all Mr. Disraeli's forte. He is dashing, brilliant, and effective, like an Arabian horseman in a fight; but at making a statement like that which he had to make on Monday, he is as much out of place as a courier of the desert would be in a brewer's dray. On this occasion—he showed this in a marked manner—he hesitated, stammered, repeated, and repeated, until the patience of his auditors was fairly tired, and he himself was well nigh exhausted. There is many a parliamentary drudge with not half his powers who could have made the statement in half the time, and done it better. Strangers in the gallery who heard him for the first time, were grievously disappointed, and were ready to say, "Can this be the great orator of whom we have heard so much?" But the said strangers were not doomed to go away with their first impression, for, fortunately, Mr. Disraeli had to reply, and then he came out *suo more*. He was out of harness—he had something to fight with—and the strangers alluded to could see that his reputation as a brilliant debater has not been overrated.

MR. EDWIN JAMES.

Mr. Edwin James took the oaths and his seat on Monday night, and made his maiden speech. It is difficult to say what Mr. James may have made into it; but it was not difficult to see that on Monday night this popular, fluent forensic orator was in his new element nervous and constrained. At present, we are not prepared to augur that a bright and particular star will arise upon our hemisphere in the person of Mr. Edwin James—but we shall see.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

REFORM.

Lord GREY moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the present municipal franchise. It appeared probable, he said, that Mr. Bright's Reform Bill would come up to the House for amendment, and as Mr. Bright had declared it desirable to assimilate the franchise for Parliament to that of the municipal corporation, their Lordships should have some exact information on the subject.

Lord DERBY wished to know what practical result the committee would arrive at. For himself, he considered that such an inquiry would be vain, and unsatisfactory.

Lord GRANVILLE and Lord ELLENBOROUGH thought that much valuable information might be gained by the committee. The Duke of ARGYLL agreed it, on the ground that it would be unpopular. In the end Lord Derby was appointed to the appointment of the committee.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE PACIFICATION OF INDIA.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH asked if the time had not arrived for appointing a day of public thanksgiving for the great successes which God had granted to the British arms in India in the suppression of the late rebellion.

Lord DERBY said, that as the complete pacification of India had not yet been accomplished, he did not think that the time had arrived for appointing a day of thanksgiving.

OCCUPATION OF THE PAPAL STATES.

Before their Lordships adjourned, Lord MELMESBURY informed the House that the Government had received communications which gave them reason to believe that within no distant period of time the armies of France and Austria would be withdrawn from the Papal States at the request of the Pontifical Government.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE APPOINTMENT OF CAPTAIN VYSE.

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES called attention to the appointments of consul and vice-consul in Japan which he viewed as inconsistent with the recommendations of the Committee on the Consular Service of which he was chairman.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD vindicated the appointment of Captain Vyse within the spirit of those recommendations and usages. The language spoken by our officials in China is not the language required in Japan; some of the most approved appointments have been those of military and naval officers; and the salary is not more than that afforded by commercial establishments.

Mr. WISE accepted the explanation as satisfactory, and disclaimed, on the part of Mr. Milnes, anything of an invidious and personal character, the objection made to the appointment of Captain Vyse.

LORD PALMERSTON AND THE STATE OF EUROPE.

On the motion that the House resolve itself into a committee of supply, Lord PALMERSTON called attention to the state of affairs on the Continent, and asked her Majesty's Government whether they were in a condition to make to the House any communication calculated to encourage the hope that there would be no interruption of the general peace of Europe. He disclaimed any factious spirit in this inquiry, which he thought it incumbent upon the House of Commons to make. From one end of Europe to the other, there was a general arming and a preparation for war, and it was natural to ask, what was all this about? He could find, he said, no question among the great Powers that ought to lead France, Austria, Sardinia, Russia, or Prussia to engage in war or to violate treaties. What, then, could be the cause of these preparations? It could only be the state of Central Italy, and, if that were the real cause of the jealousy and difficulties between two great Powers, the only way to calm them down was by a mutual and simultaneous retirement of both France and Austria from the Papal States. If this was the true cause of difference—and he was unable to see any other—the Government of Great Britain was in a position of being able, by the exercise of its good offices, to avert the evils of a general war. If a good and enlightened Government were established at Rome, the bulk of the people would be content. He ventured, therefore, to submit that her Majesty's Government might, by negotiation, obtain from Austria and France an engagement to retire from the Roman States, and procure those political improvements in them and the lesser States of Italy that would secure the future tranquillity of that country. At all events, if the attempt were made and proved unsuccessful, Great Britain would stand acquitted.

Mr. DISRAELI recognised the right of the Noble Lord, as leader of the Opposition, to take the course he had done, and acknowledged the judicious and patriotic manner in which he had fulfilled his intention. He was happy to be able to make a satisfactory reply; and to state that the Government had reason to believe peace would be re-established by the evacuation of the Roman States both by France and Austria, and that with the concurrence of the Pope. In conclusion, Mr. Disraeli urged the postponement of any discussion on this delicate subject for the present, assuring the House that every effort would be made by the Government to maintain the general peace on principles consistent with the dignity and welfare of Europe.

Lord J. RUSSELL congratulated the House upon the statement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and joined in his recommendation to the House to refrain from any discussion upon the subject.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON then proceeded with his statement respecting the Navy Estimates. He began by pointing out the great increase that had taken place in these estimates during the last few years. For the ensuing year they came to about £10,000,000, being nearly £1,000,000 more than last year. In 1835, a year to which reference had often been made, they were under £4,500,000. So we have more than doubled them since that period. But take 1832-3, the year before the war, and look at it with 1858-9, when there is no war. The difference in the estimates between these two years was not less than £3,000,000. How was it? Why, mainly because the number of seamen have increased, and their wages and provisions are higher, and steam-ships are more expensive than ships without steam. Also in building ships and altering docks there were great expenses now, which were not encountered before. But the sums laid out in purchasing steam machinery are enormous. The recommendations of two committees referring to the dockyard and steam machinery expenses are to be brought into operation, as for the present estimates 3,000 more men are needed, although some additional thousands are available who have been required in China and other distant regions. Sir John reviewed the various votes, and then proceeded to justify the increase demanded by the Government. It is in order to put the country in a proper state of defence. We may find ourselves involved in a naval war, and it is absolutely necessary we should be prepared for it. It was when we contrasted our naval appliances with France that our own necessities were made to appear, and Sir John proceeded with this contrast at great length. If the House sanctioned the votes he asked for, there would be added to our fleet fifteen line-of-battle ships, nine heavy frigates, and two iron-cased ships. Of such vessels he observed, the result of experiments was, that we must commence their construction at any cost. In conclusion, he moved the first vote of £2,400,000 and 15,000 marines.

A discussion followed, in which Sir C. Wood and Sir C. Napier (who drew a terrible picture of our weakness at sea, compared with the French) took a leading part.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, in reply, acknowledged the general approval bestowed upon his scheme; and the vote was agreed to, as well as a vote of £2,487,062 for the wages of the men.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE OCCUPATION OF ROME.

Lord CLarendon wished to know the exact information which the Government had received in relation to the withdrawal of the French and Austrian troops from the Papal dominions.

Lord MELMESBURY believed that the Papal Government had made its request to the French and Austrian Governments of its own accord; and the troops of those countries would vacate the Papal territories. Of course a large body of troops could not be removed in a day; it required time; but he could not think that either France or Austria would attempt to remain after the request of the Papal Government for their withdrawal. In answer to Lord Brougham, Lord Malmesbury observed that the French Government had stated that the preparation of warlike stores and armaments in France was merely to fill up the deficiencies of former times.

DEBTOR AND CREDITOR.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved that the Debtor and Creditor Act be read a second time.

Lord CAMPBELL moved that the bill be referred to a select committee.

After an animated discussion, in which Lord Cranworth, Lord Brougham, Lord Overstone, and Lord Wensleydale spoke in favour of a select committee,

The LORD CHANCELLOR stated, that if the bill were referred to a select committee, it would not pass this session; that his own avocations and those of Lord Campbell would incapacitate them from attending to the committee; and that a report had been published in 1854, from which all necessary information could be obtained. He deprecated delay, and moved that the bill be read a second time.

The bill was then read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE GOVERNMENT SCHEME OF REFORM.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to the representation of the people in England and Wales, and to facilitate the registration and voting of electors. He said it was the unanimous opinion of Lord Derby's Cabinet that this subject must be dealt with, and that in an *earnest* spirit, and he denied that there was anything in the previous career of Lord Derby which precluded him from bringing forward a measure of reform. Parliamentary reformers might be divided into two classes. The first class consisted of those who would adopt the settlement of 1832 to the England of 1859, and would act in the spirit of the constitution, and among this class he included her Majesty's Ministers. The other class composed a new school of Reformers, who acted avowedly upon a different principle. Their doctrine was that the chief object of representation was to realize the opinions of the population numerically; their standard was population. But, although population was one element of this question, there was another—property. He admitted that the new school had not excluded the element of property; they acknowledged that population and property should go together—as they do in statistics, but in nothing else. But the House of Commons ought to represent not only numbers and property, but all the interests of the country, and these interests were often antagonistic and competing. The object of representation was to present a mirror of the mind of the country, its agriculture, its manufacturing industry, its commerce, its professional ability. Hitherto this object had been effected, and if this system were subverted, Parliament was bound to substitute a machinery equally effective. But the new school would confine the constituency to a very limited class. If the House of Commons were reformed and reconstructed according to the principle of population, it would find itself in the ignominious position from which it had been emancipated more than two centuries ago. The change which it would be duty to recommend would not, therefore, rest upon the principle of population, nor upon that of property joined with population. Mr. Disraeli then proceeded to discuss the question of the franchise, first in boroughs, then in counties. It was proposed, he said, not to alter the limit of the borough franchise, but to introduce into boroughs a new kind of franchise, founded upon personal property, and to give a vote to persons having property to the amount of £10 a year in the funds, Bank Stock, and East India Stock; a person having £50 in a savings-bank would, under the Bill, be an elector for the borough in which he resided, as well as the recipients of pensions in the naval, military, and civil services amounting to £20 a year. Dwellers in a portion of a house whose aggregate rent was £20 a year would likewise have a vote. The suffrage would also be conferred upon graduates of the Universities, ministers of religion, members of the legal profession, and of the medical body, and certain schoolmasters. In considering the county franchise, he reviewed the controversy respecting the Chandos clause in the Act of 1832. To terminate the heartburnings arising from it, the Government proposed to recognize the principle of identity of suffrage between the counties and the towns. They proposed that Boundary Commissioners should visit the boroughs in England, re-arrange them, and adapt them to the altered circumstances of the times; their appointment would be delegated to the Enclosure Commissioners. The effect of giving to counties a £10 franchise would be, according to the estimate of the Government, to add to the county constituency 200,000. Having laid before the House the character of the proposed electoral body, Mr. Disraeli next proceeded to state how it was proposed they should be registered, and how they were to vote. Overseers of parishes would be required to furnish a list of owners as well as occupiers, which would be a self-acting register. It was proposed that the number of polling-places should be greatly increased, that every parish having 200 electors should be a polling-place; that every voter should vote in the place where he resided, and that those who liked it might vote by polling-papers instead of going to the hustings, precautions being provided against fraud and personation. Accepting as a truth that the function of that House was to represent, not the voice of a numerical majority or the influence of a predominant property, but the various interests of the country, the Government had felt it to be their duty to see whether there were interests not represented, and whether the general representation of the country could be matured and completed; and they proposed to add four members to the West Riding of Yorkshire, two to South Lancashire, and two to Middlesex; and that the following towns should be represented:—Hartlepool, Birkenhead, West Bromwich and Wednesbury, Burnley and Stalybridge, Croydon and Gravesend. Assuming that, in the opinion of the House, its numbers ought not to be increased, means must be found for the representation of these interests, and those means had been found before in similar circumstances, and in the same constitutional spirit. He promised that a schedule of places now sending two members to Parliament which it was intended should hereafter return only one each should be laid before the House next day; but the names being loudly called for, Mr. Disraeli, with a graceful manifestation of reluctance, read the list, which included Honiton, Thetford, Totnes, Harwich, Evesham, Wells, Richmond, Marlborough, Leominster, Lymington, Ludlow, Andover, Knaresborough, Tewkesbury, Maldon.

Mr. BAXTER considered the scheme unfair and unjust to the people of Scotland, and not calculated to meet the fair claims of the country; and he moved a resolution, as an amendment, "That it is expedient to consider the laws relating to the representation of the people in England and Wales, and Scotland and Ireland, not separately, but in one measure."

The amendment was generally opposed, and ultimately withdrawn.

Mr. FOX protested against the bill, because it did not remedy a glaring defect in the Reform Act of 1832, by providing for the emancipation of the working classes.

Lord J. RUSSELL said two points in Mr. Disraeli's statement had filled him with great apprehension. The first was what he understood him to say regarding freeholders in towns amounting to 90,000 or 100,000, that they were no longer to vote for the county. So far from this title to vote being an evil requiring a remedy, it was a very great advantage. The other point was a serious omission—namely, that little or nothing was said for the working classes. Unless more satisfaction was meant to be given to the country, it would be better not to change the representation at all.

Mr. ROBERTSON took a similar view of the matter, and

Mr. BRIGHT said the bill was proposed in obedience to the call of the great body of the unenfranchised, yet all the working classes, toiling and paying taxes, if they were outcasts in 1832, must be outcasts still. The new franchises were absurd; they seemed intended merely to make it appear that something was given. He insisted upon the dissatisfaction that would be created by the withdrawal of their county vote from occupiers in towns; in fact, the bill would create anger and disgust throughout the country—disrupt everything and settle nothing.

Mr. DRUMMOND, with more candour, professed not to understand the bill. He understood, he said, the bill of 1832, which was an act of vengeance on the part of the Whigs against those who had kept them out of power, and he understood Mr. Bright's measure, and knew how to meet him; but he did not know how to meet this bill.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that it would be better to wait and see the bill before its details were discussed.

Mr. JAMES expressed himself dissatisfied with the measure; and Mr. BENTINCK, not being prepared to give an opinion upon the bill, adverted to Mr. Bright's speeches; the only conclusion he could draw from them was, that Mr. Bright's views were those of a leverer and a communist.

After some further debate,

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made a general reply to questions, and repelled successfully some of the objections of Lord J. Russell and Mr. Bright.

Leave was then given to introduce the bill, the second reading of which was fixed for that day three weeks.

Other bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 29.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

VEXATIOUS LITIGATION.

Lord CAMPBELL moved the second reading of the Vexatious Indictment Bill, the object of which was, he said, that persons should not be indicted for conspiracy, obtaining money under false pretences, and similar offences, until an investigation had been instituted before a magistrate. If the magistrate, however, should refuse to commit the accused for trial, the accuser could obtain the sanction of the Attorney or Solicitor General to apply to one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, who might order an indictment to be presented to the grand jury.

Lord WENSTEDALE thought the bill highly objectionable and unconstitutional.

The LORD CHANCELLOR approved the bill in every respect, but thought it did not go far enough. He illustrated, by some very forcible and striking examples, the necessity of passing some such measure as the bill before the House.

Lord CRANWORTH spoke in favour of the second reading, as did Lord BROUGHAM, who cited some strange instances of the mistakes which had been perpetrated under the present system, and remarked that such evils would not have occurred if a public prosecutor had existed.

Their Lordships adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE RESIGNATION OF MR. WALPOLE AND MR. HENLEY.

Before the motions on the paper were proceeded with, Mr. WALPOLE rose and said, as he found that misconceptions had been circulated as to the reasons why he had left the Administration, he desired to offer an explanation to the House. When he was asked by Lord Derby to form a part of his Government, he wished, upon private and public

grounds, to decline the offer; but Lord Derby, in the kindest manner, allowed him to join on condition that if he differed with the Cabinet in respect to the Reform Bill he should be permitted to retire, and it was in consequence of such difference that he was no longer a member of the Cabinet. He admitted that it was obligatory upon the Government to bring forward a measure of reform; but as soon as he learned the nature of the measure they proposed, he had no other alternative than to resign. On the 27th of January he addressed a letter to his Lordship assigning the reason why he left office—namely, that the reduction of the county franchise and its equalization with that for boroughs, as proposed by the Government Reform Bill, was contrary to every principle of the Conservative party, a complete destruction of the distinction between the borough and county constituency, and a most dangerous innovation. In the difficulties with which the Administration was then surrounded in respect to our foreign relations, Lord Derby requested him to withhold the avowal of his intention for the present, and he consented, provided he should be allowed to retire before the Reform Bill was actually announced.

Mr. HENLEY said he agreed with Mr. Walpole in almost every particular. The only condition he made when he joined the Administration was, that he would not join it unless it undertook the Reform question, and the only ground upon which he differed with the Government upon this question was that stated by Mr. Walpole. He believed that the identity of suffrage between counties and boroughs was fatal to the constitution. He cared not whether it was £10, or £15, or £5; the identity could not be got without a large measure of disfranchisement, and he could not consent to obtain identity on such terms. As early as the end of December he wished to retire; but he was pressed, like Mr. Walpole, to remain; but at the end of January he had placed his resignation in the hands of the Minister.

THE CONDITION OF THE SHIPPING INTEREST.

Mr. LINDSAY called attention to the present condition of the shipping interest, entering into details to show the effect of the free trade policy upon British shipping—a policy which he maintained was sound and wise, not only as regarded the nation at large, but for the shipowners themselves. When, however, protection was withdrawn from British shipping, there were certain burdens which pressed upon the owners, and which ought to have been swept away, but they were suffered to press upon them still. He enumerated some of these burdens, in the shape of tolls, taxes, pilot regulations, duties, &c., and pointed out their inconsistency with a policy which Parliament had recognised as sound and wise. He moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of certain burdens and restrictions especially affecting merchant shipping.

The motion was seconded by Mr. LIDDELL, who urged the depressed condition of the shipping trade, and that, although nominally free, it was, as he endeavoured to show, restricted at home and abroad.

Mr. CRAWFORD moved, as an addition to the motion, to extend the inquiry to the operation of the Act for compensating the families of persons killed by accidents, the Merchant Shipping Acts, and the Passengers' Acts, explaining the object and purpose of this amendment.

This amendment was seconded by Mr. COLLIER.

Mr. HORSFALL complained that other countries had not treated us, in respect to our shipping trade, with the reciprocity to which our liberal measures had entitled us, though he denied that the shipowners desired the re-enactment of the Navigation Laws, or the enforcement of retaliatory measures. They only desired practical remedies for obvious or ascertained grievances.

Mr. LABOUCHERE insisted upon the success which had followed the repeal of the Navigation Laws as justifying the free trade policy. He acknowledged that there was distress in our shipping trade, but the distress was not peculiar to this country; he believed that the fluctuation in the employment of shipping in America was greater than in England. Still there might be questions which called for inquiry: and if any amendment of the law could be suggested, it would be the duty of Parliament and of any Government to adopt it.

Sir S. NORTHCRICK observed that a *prima facie* case had been shown for the grant of a committee, especially since, on both sides of the House, a reversal of our present policy was not called for. He, however, discouraged an expectation of any large grant from the Consolidated Fund. The Government were prepared to do all in their power to lighten the burdens of shipowners. He suggested the substitution of the word "all" instead of "certain" in the original motion.

The discussion was continued by Mr. Fenwick, Mr. Clay, Mr. Ingram, and Mr. Ridley.

Mr. CARDWELL concurred in the motion. Where any interest in the country suffered, no injury could result from the appointment of a committee of inquiry. He showed that the apprehensions of the effects of various measures connected with our late maritime policy had proved to be unfounded, and expressed his belief that other apprehensions and prognostications uttered that evening would vanish with equal rapidity.

Mr. WILSON called attention to returns of the vast amount of our coasting trade, and the comparatively insignificant proportion carried on by foreign vessels. He reminded the House that the Navigation Laws had been repealed not to increase British shipping (which had, however, been the result), but to get rid of a monopoly, and for the sake of commerce at large.

After a few remarks by Mr. STRAIGHT, and a reply from Mr. LINDSAY, the motion, with Mr. Crawford's addition, was agreed to.

APPEAL IN CRIMINAL CASES.

Mr. M'MARON moved for leave to bring in a bill to secure a right of appeal in criminal cases.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL made no opposition, and leave was given.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS.

Mr. DILLWIN moved for leave to bring in a bill for the better regulation of endowed schools, observing that he had modified the measure so as to obviate the objections to the bill he had withdrawn.

The motion, after a few words from the SOLICITOR-GENERAL, was agreed to.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE LAW OF PRIMOGENTIURE.

Mr. LOCKE KING moved the second reading of this bill.

Lord W. GRAHAM proposed that it be read that day six months. It was said that the measure did not attack the law of primogeniture, but though it did not do so directly it did so indirectly; and any attempt to abrogate or restrict that law would eventually lead to enactments that would terminate in its abolition. In such a case there would be no guarantee for the permanence of the constitution of the country.

Mr. HENLEY supported the bill. At present, in cases of intestacy, the wife and younger children were placed entirely at the mercy of the eldest child, and such a state of things was opposed alike to morality, justice, and even common sense.

Mr. HENLEY supported the amendment, as did Sir G. LEWIS, who said he understood the object of the bill was to assimilate the law between the division of real estate and personal estate. Such a measure was not only unnecessary, but would be most injurious, and it was not demanded by the very class for whose benefit it was introduced.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL opposed the bill on its merits. It did not provide for a description of cases that was of very frequent occurrence; and it was also very defective in its provisions, so that it could not attain the end for which it was designed. He concluded by citing the dictum of Sir Matthew Hale and the statement of Count Montalembert, in his celebrated pamphlet, as to the impolicy of altering the present law.

Mr. Ewart, Mr. Lowe, and Mr. Green spoke for the second reading, which was opposed by Mr. A. B. Hope, Mr. Whiteside, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, and Lord PALMERSTON, who said he objected to the measure on every possible ground.

On a division, there appeared for the second reading, 76; against it, 271.

CONVEYANCE OF VOTERS' BILL.

After some discussion, this bill, which places the conveyance of voters to the polling places under the head of bribery, was read a second time.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Lords sat for a short time, and transacted some business of a routine character.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Sir S. NORTHCRICK consented to postpone the Church Rates Bill for three weeks, in the absence of the Home Secretary.

ADMISSION OF JEWS TO PARLIAMENT.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE moved, "That whereas this House has upon two previous occasions resolved that any person professing the Jewish religion may henceforth, in taking the oath prescribed in an act to entitle him to sit and vote in this House, omit the words, 'and I make this declaration upon the true faith of a Christian,'" and asked for leave to be given to bring in a bill to provide that the foregoing resolution might be made a standing order.

Mr. NEWDEGATE moved as an amendment, "That no resolution, under the provisions of the Act 21 and 22 Vic., c. 49, shall be moved in this House, unless at least one day's notice of such resolution shall have been previously given in the votes. That this be a standing order of the House."

After some discussion, in the course of which the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he should oppose both motion and amendment, Mr. WALPOLE suggested that both the motion and amendment should be withdrawn, and that the whole matter should be referred to a select committee, to consider the best mode of carrying out the provisions of the act.

Mr. DUNCOMBE and Mr. NEWDEGATE both consented to adopt this course, which was accordingly agreed to.

THE TIMBER DUTIES.

Mr. MITCHELL moved that it was the opinion of the House that the duties on foreign and colonial wood should be repealed.

The motion was opposed by the Government, and on a division was lost by a majority of 133 to 77.

FORBES MACKENZIE'S ACT.

Lord MELGUND moved for a select committee to inquire into the laws regulating the sale and consumption of excisable liquors in Scotland. The Noble Lord entered into variety of details to show that Forbes Mackenzie's Act had increased crime and drunkenness in that country, and been altogether demoralising in its tendency.

Sir ANDREW AGNEW moved, "That a humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that she will be pleased to appoint a royal commission to carry out the said inquiry." He contended that the said investigation would be better conducted by a commission on the spot by a committee sitting in London.

The LORD ADVOCATE concurred with Sir A. Agnew, and Lord Melgund having agreed to adopt the course proposed, the amendment was agreed to.

THE WEST INDIES.

Mr. BUXTON moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the condition of the West Indies, and the best means of promoting immigration into them. He contended that these islands had not been ruined, as was alleged, by the abolition of slavery; but that they were now rapidly advancing in prosperity, and would be greatly benefited by immigration, and it became necessary to determine the principles upon which it should be regulated.

The SECRETARY for the COLONIES suggested that Mr. Buxton should either wait until additional information with regard to the West Indies was laid before the House by the Government, or limit the investigation to the present mode of immigration and the best means of promoting it.

Mr. BUXTON agreed to this proposal, and withdrew his motion.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

Lord BURY moved the third reading of this bill, which, on a division, was carried by a majority of 137 to 89.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—In consequence of difference of opinion as to the Reform Bill introduced by Lord Derby, Mr. Walpole and Mr. Henley have resigned. The post of the former—as Secretary of State for the Home department—is now filled by Mr. Sootheron Estcourt, late President of the Poor law Board, in which post Lord March will replace Mr. Estcourt. Mr. Henley's office as President of the Board of Trade, is occupied by Lord Donoughmore; and Lord Lovaine, late a lay Lord of the Admiralty, will replace Lord Donoughmore as vice-President. Mr. F. Lygon, M.P. for Tewkesbury, succeeds Lord Lovaine at the Admiralty.

MR. GLADSTONE'S APPOINTMENT.—Another "mess," we understand, has been got into regarding the proceedings of Mr. Gladstone in Ionia. Mr. Gladstone's appointment as Lord High Commissioner having ceased with the gazetting of Sir Henry Storks as his successor, he has since been acting as vice-Commissioner under a commission from the said Sir Henry Storks. The question has arisen whether, as holding from the Crown, Sir Henry Storks could make any such appointment but what must be held as also derived from the Crown—in which case, besides other doubts and difficulties, Mr. Gladstone's seat for Oxford University is vacant again. Sir H. Cairns, the English Solicitor-General, has, we believe, given a decided opinion that such is the effect of the procedure. Mr. Gladstone will thus have been twice in and twice out of Parliament, and have held and resigned three, if not four different offices, all within the space of a few days.—"Scotsman."

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.—Mr. Scholefield's bill for preventing the adulteration of articles of food or drink provides that vestries and town councils shall be enabled to appoint analysts who may be required by any one in the district to analyse any article of food or drink, and give a certificate of the result of his analyses on payment of half-a-crown. The expenses of carrying out the Act are to be defrayed out of local funds; it does not extend to Scotland and Ireland.

THE BARGAIN AT THE FRUIT-STALL, ALGIERS.

ALGIERS as may readily be understood, from its almost tropical climate, abounds in fruit of all kinds. Melons are in great abundance, and the orange groves of Bledah (a small town within five hours' ride from Algiers) are very celebrated. Miles of ground are covered with the most luxuriant trees, the fragrance of which can be distinctly traced at a great distance. Figs, common and "Barbary," are plentiful. The Barbary fig is the fruit of a gigantic cactus, commonly called the Prickly Pear. This fig is a great favourite with the natives. An Arab boy will coolly sit down under a tree with a heap of about 30 before him. With the aid of a knife he removes the thick tough skins, and then sets to work devouring them there; after which he smokes a cigarette and lies down to sleep for the rest of the day. The flavour of the Barbary fig is very peculiar; something like a very sweet cucumber, full of hard pips. Then there is the green fig, a very luscious fruit, and exceedingly cheap. Grapes are abundant, as also melons of every sort; red, white, and salmon-colour. Then there are water melons, and many other fruits, strange in appearance, and by no means tempting.

The Fruit Market is of course a very important place where half the town lives on fruit; it here presents a most astonishing scene. As you are quietly walking along the Rue Bab-a-Zoune, under the colonnade, you suddenly come upon a flight of steps and hear an extraordinary shouting and bellowing; you naturally ascend the steps to see what it's all about, and such a scene presents itself: there are Arabs squatting on the ground with huge heaps of magnificent fruit; here stands a Spaniard, quiet and dignified, selling shrub tomatoes; here are Moors, Jews, French soldiers, Nuns, Moorish women rolled up so that you can see nothing but their eyes; here are French girls in neat caps and trim aprons smartly tripping past, now jesting with a Moor, now joking with a soldier. You hear a strange noise behind you, you look round, and have scarcely time to stand aside, when up come two gigantic negroes carrying between them something huge on a pole. They trot along singing something in a bass sort of bark, equivalent to "Look out, there," but everybody does not look out; and sometimes the negroes run into a stately Spaniard, or a grand fat Moor is precipitated into a basket of green figs. You observe that he is "chaffed" dreadfully; and pass on ere a Jew has time to persuade you that a pumpkin as big as a small foot-bath would be a useful article.

There are not many places, besides this market, where costume is so varied or so picturesque, the scene more lively, and the babel of tongues more deafening and varied. Within the space, not larger than Leicester Square, you hear French, Italian, German, Maltese, Arabic, Hebrew, Spanish, and Greek, all within ten minutes. Your walk will probably be interrupted by the inquiry "Anglis, monsieur?" If you answer, "Yes," some compliment follows from the Arabs and Moors, such as (if they knew as much English or French) "Anglis very much brave!" We were present on one occasion, when an Arab, approaching an English gentleman, said, "You Englis, monsieur?" Upon being answered in the affirmative, he seized the other's hand, and kissed it several times, saying, "Englis have very much brave" (laying his hand on his heart) "brave stomachs!"

Presently you come upon an Italian with a large pan, in which lies an oily, bilious-looking cake. He is playing a game with an Arab youth for a slice of the cake. They both put out so many figures and cry a number, and if either of them guess what the number of figures added together is, he wins: the cake proprietor delivers a slice of cake for nothing, or the unfortunate boy receives no equivalent for his sous. To see the anxiety among the spectators, as well as the principals, is very amusing. As for the latter, it would seem that nothing less than their lives depended on the game. They cry again and again. The Arab is beaten, and the bystanders utter a sigh of relief as if a great weight had been taken off their minds.

We proceed a little further, and at



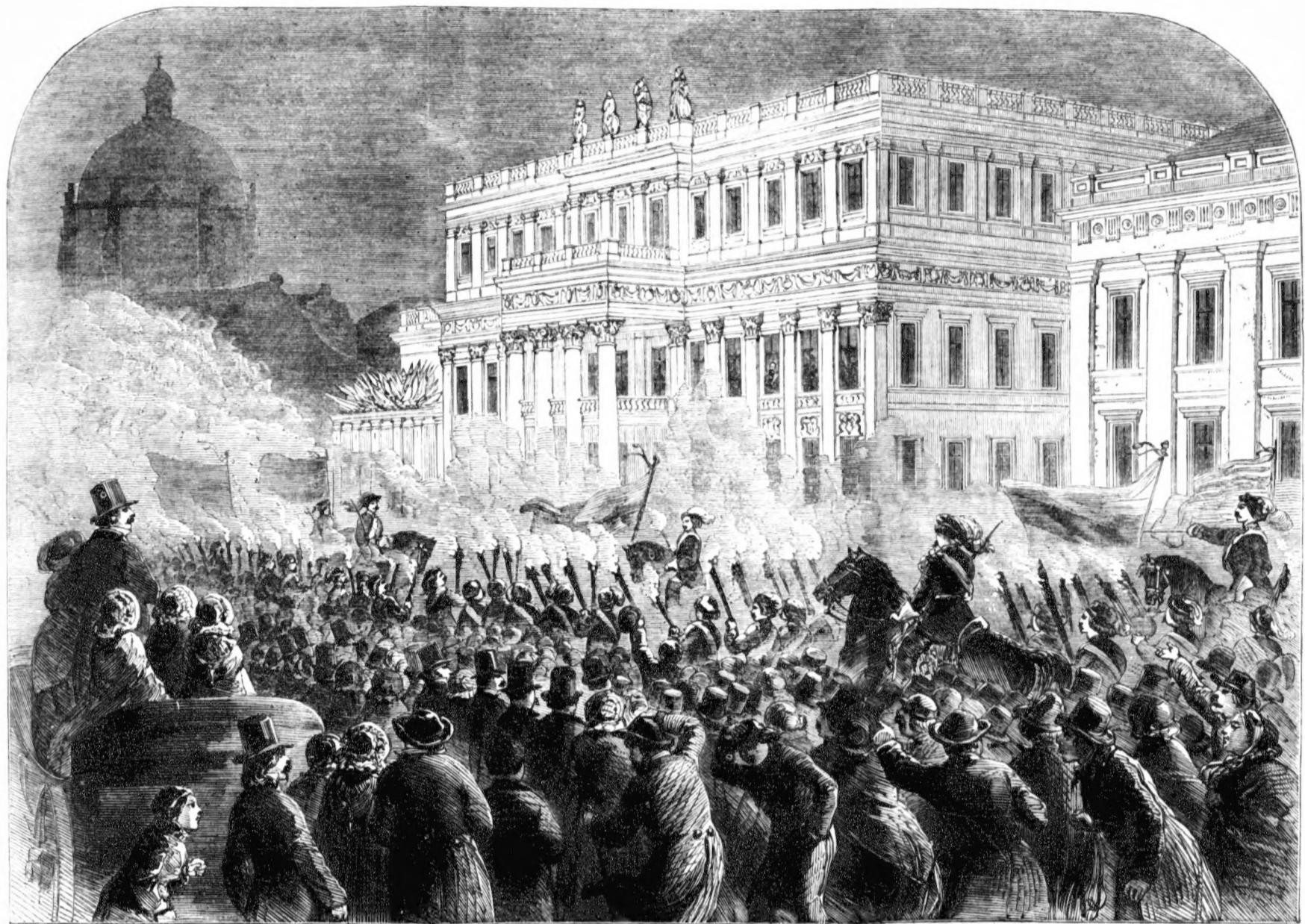
SCENE IN THE FRUIT-MARKET, ALGIERS.

about to turn away, when Ben-ad-Zaro, or whatever his name may be, calls him back. "Take them away," he cries. The Spaniard accordingly begins filling his panniers. We are curious to know how much he has been quarrelling about; and find, when the moment of liquidation comes, that it was half a franc. He pays the poor fellow with much condescending air, then flinging himself on to his mule off they go.

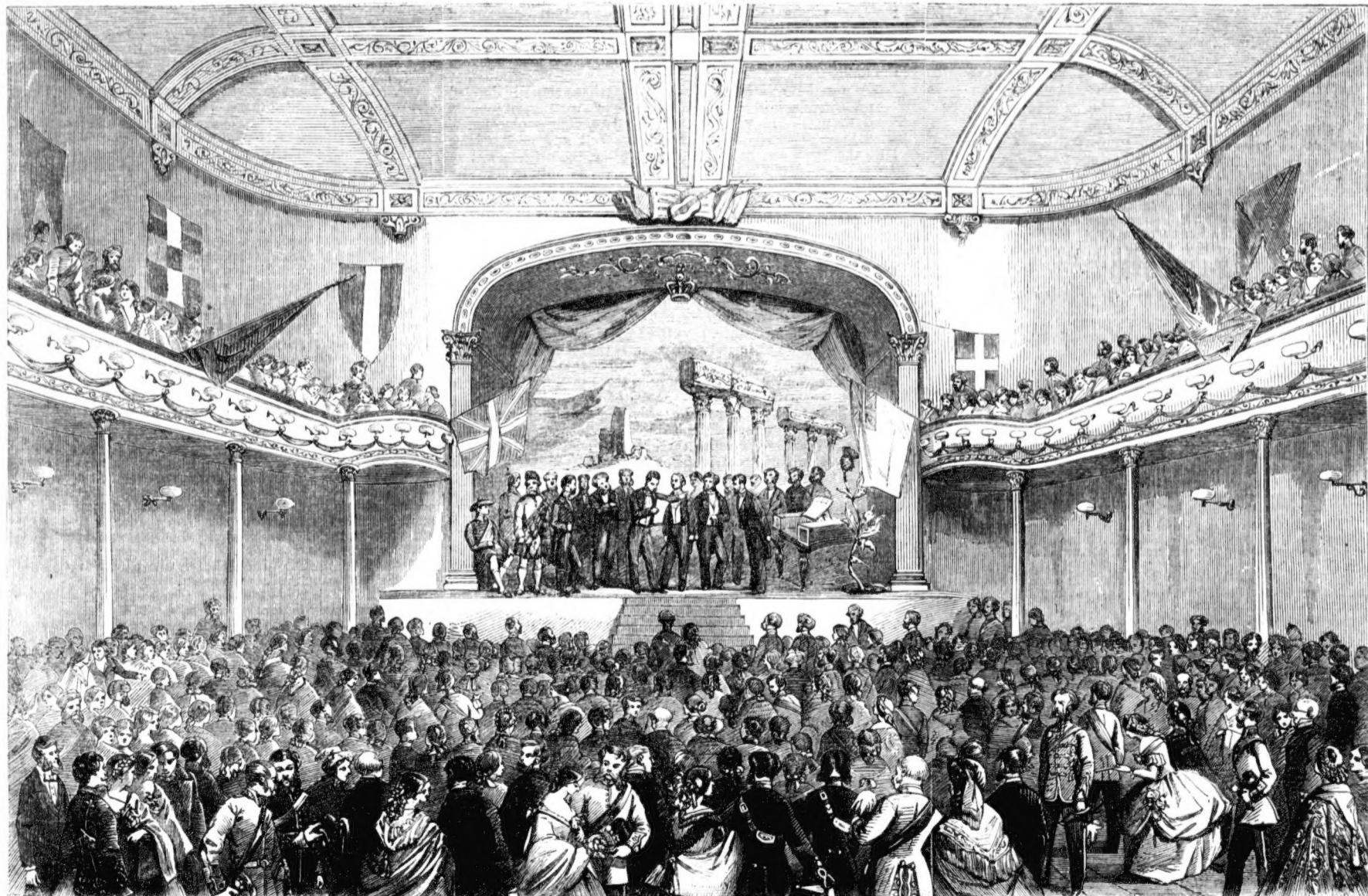
It is now half-past eight and the market begins to get thinner; the

noise grows less, and soon there is no more to be heard or seen. We take a turn through the Grand Bazaar, and then in to breakfast, passing in our way a little wine-shop, called "The Alliance," over the door of which is painted a Zouave and a Highlander shaking hands. The Zouave is all right enough, but the Highlander is very funny; he is dressed in a pink skirt, with evident signs of crinoline, pretty little white Adelaide boots, and red striped stockings, up to his knees; red coat, of course, and a most extraordinary hat, something like a small

skull-cap with a funeral plume on the top. As we pause to admire this wonderful portrait of our countryman, a French soldier comes up, and politely informs us that the Queen was so pleased with the Zouave dress that she intends dressing all the Guards and even the Highlanders in that costume. Not quite convinced as to the probability of the truth of this statement, we wander along in the shade and into our hotel, very glad to get out of the glare, and not less to commence upon our breakfast.



TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION AT BERLIN ON THE OCCASION OF THE BIRTH OF THE INFANT PRINCE.



THE BURNS FESTIVAL IN THE MUSIC-HALL AT QUEBEC.—(FROM A SKETCH BY J. ARCHEE.)

TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION AT BERLIN.

THE ceremonies of our neighbours on the Continent have more of earnestness in them than we can well conceive. Contrast the procession of gaudy carriages which conveyed our Lord Mayor and the Corporation to Buckingham Palace, last week, there to congratulate her Majesty on the birth of her grandson, with the scene on the preceding page. Or imagine the effect of any such demonstration in London. The "Times" would be full of letters, written in every variety of style, from the sarcastic down to the imbecile, complaining of the waste, the smoke, the blacks, and the tomfoolery. But there is another view of the question. These young men, the students of Berlin, who attired themselves in mediæval costumes, and marched with their flambeaux through the city in honour of the birth of the new Prince of Prussia, took pains, at any rate, to display their loyalty, and succeeded in looking picturesque and handsome enough. Such a demonstration can only be founded on earnestness and loyalty; there are valuable types and meanings in it; and we wish we had been there to see, instead of being indebted to our artist in the Prussian capital for a sketch. At the moment when this sketch was taken the students had halted before the palace, to present a congratulatory address to the Prince and Princess.

THE BURNS FESTIVAL AT QUEBEC.

THE celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns, in Quebec, far exceeded anything of the kind that ever was attempted in that city. The music Hall was crowded to overflowing. On entering the room, the spectator was struck by the tasteful manner in which the walls and the whole hall itself were decorated. Banners were seen draped in every direction; two or three pictures, connected with the life of Burns, were displayed in different parts of the hall; and, at the back of the platform, there was a painting of the peasant poet holding the plough. A border of tartan surrounded the painting, and underneath were these words:—"The poetic genius of my country found me, as the prophetic Bard Elijah did Elisha, at the plough, and threw her inspiring mantle over me." At one corner of the stage was placed a figure of Burns *en costume*, in a sitting posture. Immediately after the garrison gun had announced the appointed hour, the president (the Hon. F. W. Primrose), and the members of the committee, ascended the platform or stage. The drop scene was down, and seats were arranged for the committee and such special guests as chose to take advantage of them. A desk with candles was placed in front for the convenience of those gentlemen who had undertaken to address the audience. The band of the 39th Regiment occupied the gallery opposite, and opened the evening with the overture to "Guy Mannering." The President then, advancing to the front of the stage, addressed the meeting. He begged to introduce to the numerous assembly before him, Dr. W. S. Smith, who would discourse on "The Genius and Poetry of Burns." Dr. Smith accordingly delivered a very enthusiastic address on the subject, the audience testifying their admiration of his discourse in repeated rounds of applause. On the conclusion of the address, "A man's a man for a' that," and "Afton Water," were sung. After the songs, came an address on "The position which Burns holds in literature." Songs again followed, and a warmly-welcomed variety was imparted to the proceedings by the appearance of a piper, in the garb of old Gael, and the strains of the Highland bagpipes.

After the interlude, the band of the 39th struck up the "Caledonian Quadrilles." Another address was delivered by Mr. Kerr, advocate, the subject of which was "Canada and our inheritance." Other songs followed, amongst which "Auld lang syne" was distinguished by the cordial manner in which the committee and subsequently the whole audience joined in the chorus. When this was finished, the drop scene was raised, and the carpeted stage thrown open to all. At the back a long refreshment table was displayed to view, furnished with tea and coffee, &c. Thither the company ascended, and then dancing commenced. At this time the *coup-d'œil* was very pleasing. The galleries were filled with rows of shining faces, the body of the hall was one vortex of dancers, and up and down the platform were moving crowds in varied dresses, intermixed with the scarlet of the military.

By means of a wire introduced into the building by the Montreal Telegraph Company, the principal cities of the United States and of Canada were placed "in circuit," and telegraphic communication was maintained during the evening: so that "The memory of Burns" should be drunk at the same instant. The hour fixed was half-past nine p.m., Montreal time; at that moment the committee of management at Quebec drank the toast, and communicated to the Montrealers that they had done so, sending also the following sentiment—"Burns: Scotia, with exulting tear, honours her son, and his admirers in Britain and America unite in paying deep and sincere homage to him, the bard that's gone awa'." At midnight, the supper-room was thrown open. There could not at this time have been less than 1,500 persons present.

At the supper-table the president of the committee, the Hon. Mr. Primrose, at twelve o'clock, proposed the "Memory of Burns." This was the only toast, and it was drunk in solemn silence. The Honourable Gentleman also announced that the Secretary had received telegraphic messages, and stated that the sentiment interchanged with New York, Boston, Detroit, Hamilton, and Hartford, was the same as that sent to Montreal. From New York the message was:—"We have selected the following toast and sentiment to be drunk all over America at ten o'clock precisely, New York time—"Kindred associations throughout the world: may they preserve the songs and disseminate the sentiments of Burns, till man to man the warl' o'er shall brothers be an 'a' that." From Boston came the following message:—"The Burns Club of Boston will gladly meet the wish of their brethren in Quebec, and offer them as a sentiment—"Burns: his songs unite the world in common brotherhood; may their influence never decay."

A SHOWER OF FISH is said to have fallen during a storm of wind and rain at Mountain Ash, Glamorganshire, on the 11th ult., and the story appears to be well authenticated. The fish, which was very numerous, were some of them four inches long, with bright white tails and fins. Several of the fish were preserved alive, and appeared to be quite at home in bottles of fresh water.

THE GREEK GOVERNMENT has demanded a credit of two millions of drachmas in case of need.

MR. G. H. CARY, of the Chancery bar, has been appointed Attorney-General of the new colony of British Columbia. Mr. Cary was a pupil of the Solicitor-General (Sir Hugh Cairns).

THE FARM PRODUCE and agricultural implements, with several barns and cottages, the property of a farmer at Medbourn, near Market Harborough, were destroyed by fire on Saturday. The loss is estimated at £3,000.

MR. COHDEN'S TRANSLATION OF MICHAEL CHEVALIER on the "Probable Fall in the Value of Gold," has nearly run through the first edition, and a reprint is already in the press.

THE LONDON ORPHAN SOCIETY.—Sir John Pakington presided over the 44th Anniversary Dinner of this very meritorious charity, last week. The chairman stated in the course of the evening that about two thousand five hundred orphans had been benefited by this charity; and four hundred and twenty children are at present lodged, boarded, and educated within its walls. The expenditure necessary to support the charity in its present condition is £11,000 a-year, of which only £2,000 is derived from funded property; therefore we cannot but recommend it to the good nature of the public. In the room was exhibited a group of the "White Doe of Rylstone," executed by Mr. Miller, a former pupil of the Institution, who has lately been appointed principal instructor in the science and art department of the Committee of Council on Education.

A MARRIAGE FEAST.—A letter from Paris says, that at the banquet given after the late Rothschild marriage, there were "swallows" nests from China, sterlets from Russia, reed birds and canvas-back ducks from America, bustards from Spain, pheasants from Bohemia, entrées of peacocks' brains, fillets of buffalo-hump, and a lady-informant declares—salmis of Brazilian parrots! Every salt or freshwater had yielded up its fish; every moor, marsh, or forest, its fowl; every hot-bed heated by fire or by the sun, its fruit; and every grape that ever hung anywhere, its wine. As to the flowers with which the table and the dining-room were ornamented, it is affirmed that there were £1,500 worth. All the windows were covered with trellis work, over which were framed the choicest creeping plants of the tropics, shedding their perfumes around.

SIR E. LANOEER'S "RETURN FROM HAWKING,"
AND
"DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY,"
AND
ANSDELL'S "COMBAT."

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SOME OF THE MOST STRIKING INEQUALITIES OF THE PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

ERRATUM.—The name of the gentleman who designed and has directed the building of Sydney University was misspelled in our last number: it is Blacket, not Blocket.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1859.

THE CRISIS.

THE Governments of Europe still continue to talk of peace and to prepare for war. While we at home are discussing the Reform question, and referring the shipping interest and its difficulties to a committee, troops assemble at Lyons; men are called back from furlough to Vienna; cannons of rare device emerge from French foundries, and are whipped south almost as soon as they cool; the Germanic Confederation rouses itself into patriotism; and Italy holds its breath with expectation. We sincerely trust that Lord Cowley may hush all this gathering storm into peace—like Neptune putting his head out of the sea in Virgil—but we scarcely expect it. For, not only does it seem that people living near the scene of action do not expect it; but who can help thinking that Napoleon must have had deeper designs this long time, than any little concessions are likely to stop? We say little concessions, because there is not the least reason to suppose that in great matters—matters of national honour—Austria will yield at all; and among ourselves in England, we all feel somehow that we should despise her if she did.

The question now being decided—or perhaps actually decided—at Vienna, is, how much the Emperor of Austria will tolerate from France. He will evacuate the Legations—coincidently with France—at the Pope's request. Well and good. How long the Pope can hold his ground after the withdrawal of foreign troops, is his own affair. Austria is only to take any step compatible with treaties that may avert the chance of war. Then, there is the Principalities question: and in this case, probably, Austria will agree to recognise Couza, on the understanding that he confines himself, of course, within the limits imposed by the Paris Congress. But this is not all that is expected from the Emperor. He is further, it seems, invited to break through his engagements with those minor Italian Powers, of which he is the patron. What is the pretext, here? "Reform." But reform in corrupt countries, means revolution, and of revolution, France says the Imperial pamphlet, is a foe. So, that what we ultimately arrive at, is that Austria is to leave the field open to the revolution, in order that the consequent disturbances may give France a pretext for intervention. This is the game up to the present stage of it. Napoleon has an army; he has a motive; and he is waiting for a pretext. If he can get Austria to furnish him one, plausible enough to fill a manifesto, then, hey for the eagles and glory, and all the rest that makes the lurid poetry of Bonapartism.

Lord Cowley, we suppose, is counselling moderation—withdrawing from the Legations, the recognition of Couza, and reform in Italy. But that he counsels—or that Austria will yield—all the concessions demanded by Napoleon, we do not believe. It is out of the question that the Emperor of Austria should be forbidden to make such treaties with Italian potentates, as may be dictated by their mutual convenience as neighbouring Powers. Of course, anybody has a right to find fault with these potentates—to say that they are feeble despots, whose *régime* is an unpleasant spectacle to free men. Many people in England are probably of that opinion—as there are many people in England who dislike the regulations which control the French press, or the government of the Papal States by a parcel of priests, or the roasting of negroes in the southern parts of America. But surely, in all such cases, the first duty in the matter devolves upon those immediately concerned; and France, without assuming a kind of political Popedom, with Paris for its seat, has no call whatever to meddle with misdoings in the South? This is our view, for the most part, in England at all events; and what is more, it is a view making itself felt more and more every day in Germany also. The world has had enough of French propagandism, which has always begun with sentimentality and vapouring, and ended in oppression and bloodshed. The opportunity is now excellent for the Powers, immediately exposed to her affronts, to unite themselves at once, and determinedly to suppress the nuisance.

The spirit of Germany itself seems excellent. What we hope is, that the rulers of the great Germanic peoples will know how

to avail themselves of it; and they may be sure that they never had a better opportunity of uniting themselves, by a national policy, with their countrymen. For our parts, in England, the French Alliance exists only as a means for preserving the best interests of Europe, and is broken at once when these are invaded. Alliances with us are only final for purposes of good. Cromwell favoured the French alliance, not from any abstract preference of France, but because—while Mazarin treated England with respect, Spain was the Power then most hostile to the world's good government; and Holland the one most grasping in matters of trade. These are questions of general convenience; and an alliance formed in one conjuncture of affairs, becomes properly, and indeed of honourable necessity, dissolved in another. Thus, a Power which fails to see that war—for war and ambition's sake—has in the existing stage of the world's history become a crime, commits an offence against the generation. The associations of particular alliances are broken by acts which strike at the peace of the world at large, and the universal honour and interest require a general protest against the first offender. Let Austria act with moderation while she acts with firmness, and she is sure to be safe in the long-run.

THE GOVERNMENT REFORM BILL.

The following is a summary of the provisions of the Government Reform Bill: quoting the exact terms of the bill as regards the more important clauses.

QUALIFICATION.

All the present franchises remain, and some new franchises are created. The terms of the bill as to the new franchises are as follows:

"1. Every male person of full age, and not subject to any legal incapacity, who shall have any one of the several qualifications hereinafter specified, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and to vote in the election of a member or members for the county, or if within the limits of a borough, then in the election of a member or members for the borough, where, in the case of qualifications arising out of the lands or tenements, such lands or tenements shall be situate, and where in all other cases such persons shall reside."

The qualifications above referred to are as follows:

"1. (*Freeholds of inheritance*). Who shall be beneficially entitled, as owner or as mortgagee in possession, at law or in equity, to an estate of inheritance in lands or tenements of freehold tenure, of the clear yearly value, over and above all charges and encumbrances affecting the same, of not less than 40s.

"2. (*Copyholds of inheritance*). Or shall be so beneficially entitled to an estate of inheritance in lands or tenements of copyhold, or any other tenure whatever, except freehold, of such clear yearly value, as aforesaid, of not less than £5.

"3. (*Estates for lives*). Or shall be so beneficially entitled to an estate for any life or lives in lands or tenements, of any tenure, of such clear yearly value, as aforesaid, of not less than £5.

"4. (*Estates for years*). Or shall be so beneficially entitled to a term originally granted for not less than thirty years in lands or tenements, of any tenure, of such yearly value, as aforesaid, of not less than £5.

"5. (*Tenant occupiers*). Or shall occupy as tenant any such lands or tenements of the clear yearly value of not less than £10.

"6. (*lodgers*). Or shall occupy any apartments in, or portion of a house, whether furnished or unfurnished, for which he shall have paid a rent of not less than 8s. per week, or per annum to an amount of £20.

"7. (*Annual Income from Personal Property*). Or shall be in the beneficial enjoyment of an income arising from any pension, pay, or superannuation allowance, in respect of any past employment by such person in any department of her Majesty's naval, military, East Indian, or civil service, and who shall no longer be permanently employed therein, amounting to not less per annum than £20.

"8. (*Incomes from Pensions, &c.*). Or shall be in the beneficial enjoyment of an income arising from any pension, pay, or superannuation allowance, in respect of any past employment by such person in any department of her Majesty's naval, military, East Indian, or civil service, and who shall no longer be permanently employed therein, amounting to not less per annum than £20.

"9. (*Savings' Bank Deposit*). Or shall hold, and shall be beneficially entitled to, a deposit in some savings' bank, established in England or Wales, under the provisions of the Act of the ninth year of his late Majesty King George IV, chap. 92, to the amount of £60.

"10. (*Educational Qualifications*). Or shall possess one or other of the qualifications following, that is to say:—Who shall be a graduate of any University of the United Kingdom; or an ordained priest or deacon of the Church of England; or a minister of any other religious denomination, appointed, either alone or with not more than one colleague, to the charge of any chapel or place of worship, and officiating as the minister thereof; or a barrister-at-law, or sergeant-at-law, in any of the Inns of Court in England, or a certified pleader or conveyancer; or a certified attorney, or solicitor, or proctor in England and Wales; or a member of the medical profession, registered under the provisions of the Medical Act, 1858; or schoolmaster holding a certificate from the Committee of her Majesty's Council on Education.

"11. (*Right of Freemen, &c.*). Or who shall be entitled to be registered for any county, city, or borough, in respect of any estate for life in freehold lands or tenements, of which he shall be seized at the time of passing of this Act, or in respect of any qualification, as freeholder, burgage-tenant, burgess, freeman, liveryman, or otherwise, reserved or defined in the 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, and 35th sections of the Act of the second year of the reign of his late Majesty King William IV, cap. 45."

The Bank of England, the Commissioners of National Debt, and the East India Company, are bound to give certificates of income from personal property in their hands at the request of fundholders. The certificate is to be given to the overseer together with claim, and the overseer is to ascertain yearly if claimants continue qualified. Forms are provided in which claims on account of pension or personal qualification may be made. Persons employed in government arsenals, dockyards, or factories may not vote.

Clauses XVI. to XXXVI. are taken up with provisions respecting the manner of preparing the lists of voters.

Clause XXXVII. is important, as it transfers a large number of freeholders from county to town constituencies. It is as follows:

"Every voter inserted in such voting register as residing within the county or borough, shall vote at the polling-place appointed for the parish in which he shall be registered as residing, and not elsewhere; and every voter inserted in such voting register as an out-voter or non-resident, may vote at any polling-place for such county or borough, provided that every such out-voter upon tendering his vote at any election shall be asked by the returning-officer, or his deputy, whether he has voted before in person or by voting-paper at such election; and any person making an untrue answer to such question, or who shall, without being asked such question, vote a second time at such election, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour; and on being convicted thereof shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, together with hard labour."

Polling places in counties are to be increased.

Out-voters may obtain voting papers from the returning officer, and send their votes by post. A number of provisions guard the exercise of this privilege.

The payment of travelling expenses of voters is declared illegal: the clause is worded as follows:

"It shall not be lawful for any candidate at any election to pay any money on account of the conveyance of any voter to the poll, either to

the voter himself or to any other person; and if any such candidate, or any person on his behalf, and with his authority, shall pay any money on account of the conveyance of any voter to the poll, such payment shall be deemed to be an illegal payment within the meaning of the "Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1851."

The future rights of voting are to be exercised where, in case a qualification arises out of lands or tenements, the property is situate; or where all other cases the voter shall reside.

In the case of ownership or occupation of lands or tenements, the same period of possession is required as by the existing law. In the new creation of the franchise, twelve months' occupation of apartments or possession of income or deposit. In the two latter cases twelve months' residence, also, is necessary before registration.

The law requiring payment of poor-rates by the occupiers, hitherto in force only in boroughs, is extended to £10 occupiers in counties.

The occupation franchise is extended to all descriptions of real property, whether a building is or is not included in the occupation.

No more than two voters can be registered in respect to any freehold, copyhold, or leasehold interest in the same premises, unless the property shall have come by descent, &c., to more than that number, or shall belong to a greater number *bona fide* engaged as partners carrying on business upon the premises. The effect of this provision, it is calculated, will prevent the undue splitting of property solely for the purpose of creating fictitious votes.

Payment of assessed taxes is no longer required as a condition to registration. All persons in the actual service of the government in dockyards or factories are disqualified from voting while so employed, and for one month after leaving the service.

REGISTRATION.

Hitherto every county voter has been compelled to claim before the 24th of July.

Occupiers in boroughs were placed upon the lists by the overseers without claim; freemen by the town-clerk. Persons omitted had a power of claiming at a later period.

The bill assimilates the borough and county system. It requires the overseer to put on the lists the names of all owners and occupiers who possess the required qualification in his parish, whether they claim or

A concurrent right of claiming is, however, still reserved to the owners and occupiers, if they think fit to avail themselves of it; and in addition to this, if, upon publication of the lists on the 24th of July, any name shall appear to be omitted, or incorrectly described, or any person wishes to amend his qualification or his residence, he will have the power to do so by sending in a supplemental claim before the 24th of August.

Lodgers must send in an annual claim; and claimants in respect of the other new franchises must send in a claim in the first instance.

The days upon which the several stages in the process of registration are to be completed are made more uniform and intelligible, as follows:—

Proceeds to be issued	May 24.
Up to the 24th of June	June 24.
Lists to be published by overseer	July 21.
Supplemental lists and lists of objections	Aug 24.
Fee to be paid before June 24 which became due before Dec. 25.	Dec. 25.
Register to be completed by clerk of peace by	Dec. 31.

The register of voters will be in force from the commencement to the end of the year, instead of from the last day of November.

The clerk of the peace, in addition to the present register, is to make a voting register according to the residencies of the voters, separating the out-voters or non-residents into a distinct list: thus the voters will not be required to vote henceforth in the district in which their qualification is situate, which may be and often is at a great distance from where they reside, but will vote at the polling place appointed for the parish in which they live. The out-voters will be at liberty to vote at any polling place.

Facilities are provided for voters to poll—(1.) By an increase in the number of polling places; and (2.) by voting papers.

The magistrates at the Michaelmas quarter sessions are required to appoint polling places for the counties, and to provide a separate polling place for every parish in which there shall be not less than 200 resident electors; and polling place for every group of parishes not having that number in any one of them at some central and convenient place where 200 can be brought together. It will be unnecessary to erect booths for this purpose. A convenient room can in all cases be hired, or the police stations belonging to the county may be made so, unless the magistrates provide suitable places belonging to the county. It is provided that the charge for hiring these rooms for polling places shall be defrayed out of the county rate.

The voting papers are to be issued to voters by the returning officer, upon application in writing. They are to be sent by post by that officer as prepaid registered letters, and are to be returned direct to the returning officer in the same way. Proof of transmission each way is thus secured. The forms contain instructions for filling up the voting papers, which must be signed by the voter in the presence of two witnesses, one of whom must be a householder.

The voting papers are to be opened on the day of polling by a deputy appointed for the purpose in the presence of the candidates or their agents, and the votes are to be recorded from them, and no voting paper is to be rejected for informality, if it is properly signed and witnessed, and contains the surname of the candidate. The expense of issuing the voting papers is to form part of the election expenses of the candidates.

These increased facilities for voting render travelling expenses unnecessary, and the payment of them is therefore declared to be an illegal act, under the provisions of the Corrupt Practices Act.

The right of voting by voting papers is extended to the Universities.

Provisions are introduced for the enlargement of the boundaries of boroughs which have outgrown their limits. It is provided that the Enclosure Commission shall forthwith appoint special commissioners to visit every borough, and inspect the boundaries and the location of the inhabitants, and before the 1st of January next report to the Home Secretary whether any and what enlargement of the boundaries is necessary, for the purpose of including within the area of boroughs the population really belonging to them, with a view to the introduction of a boundary bill next session.

Members holding offices of profit under the Crown are not to be required to vacate their seats on acceptance of another office.

PARTIAL DISFRANCHISEMENT.

The following towns, at present having two representatives, are in future to return only one member:—Honiton, Harwich, Richmond, Lymington, Knaresborough, Thetford, Evesham, Marlborough, Ludlow, Tewkesbury, Totnes, Wells, Leominster, Andover, Maldon.

NEW CONSTITUENCIES.

Lancashire is to be formed into three divisions, the West Riding of Yorkshire into three divisions, Middlesex into two divisions,—each division returning two members.

The following seven towns are to be constituted parliamentary boroughs, each returning one member:—West Bromwich, Birkenhead, Burnley, Stalybridge, Croydon, Gravesend, Hartlepool.

INEQUALITIES OF OUR REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM.

The comparative scale, representing the condition of the Parliamentary representation of Great Britain, which we publish with this number of the paper, has been prepared with a view to show the unequal distribution of members in proportion to the population: a state of things which has mainly arisen from the changed conditions of the country.

From the time of James I. to the beginning of the present century, the population of the country was barely doubled. At the last census return, in 1851, the population of London amounted to two millions three hundred thousand and upwards. At the taking of the next census the population of the metropolis will be more than three millions (an increase during ten years of nearly one-third). If it

increases at the same rate, in 1900—(forty-one years from the present time)—the population of London will amount to FIVE MILLIONS.

In the provinces, the population of all the great manufacturing and mercantile towns has increased to a wonderful extent. Within a very short period of time, Liverpool has risen to be a mighty city. Manchester, Birmingham, Glasgow, Middlesbrough, and many other places, have attained to an importance that was little dreamt of fifty years ago; and, while these startling changes have been going on, in other localities the population has increased merely to a trifling extent, and in some instances has even declined, or remained stationary.

Many examples might be brought forward to show the necessity which exists for a careful revision of the representation of the nation. For instance, in 1841, the population of the county of Rutland was 21,302, and in 1851 it amounted to 22,984—being an increase of only 2 per cent. In 1841, the population of the county of Salop was 225,820, in 1851 it was 229,341—an increase of only 2 per cent. In 1841, the population of the county of Wilts was 256,280, in 1851 it was 261,221—a decrease of 1 per cent. We might mention other counties and boroughs which show similar results; but these will serve for the purpose of contrast with the population of Glamorgan, which was, in 1841, 171,188, and in 1851 had reached 231,849—being an increase of 35 per cent.; also the population of Durham, which was, in 1841, 307,963; and in 1851 it had amounted to 390,997—being an increase, in ten years, of 27 per cent. In 1841, the population of Lancaster was 1,667,034; in 1851 it had risen to 2,031,236—being an increase of 22 per cent. The populations of the subjoined counties have also risen in the following proportions:—Stafford, 20 per cent.; Surrey, 17 per cent.; Middlesex, 20 per cent.; Monmouth, 17 per cent.

With this increase of population there has been a proportionate increase of wealth in these counties, which requires to be fairly represented in Parliament.

During the ten years above mentioned the rural population has increased at a rate of about 7 per cent., while the increase of the entire population has been nearly 10 per cent. In the towns, population has increased 18 per cent.

Nor is the contrast between the value of the property in various counties less striking than the difference in the population. In Middlesex the amount of real property is upwards of £13,000,000. In Rutland the amount of real property is only £160,000, yet the members for the county of Rutland have the same power in the House of Commons as the members for Middlesex; and it should be remarked that this vast difference is year after year becoming still greater.

A reference to our tables will show that, taking the representation in the mass, the inequalities are no less startling, and it must be admitted that such glaring anomalies no longer ought to exist. Why should the county of Hereford, with a population of only 98,162, and about £800,000 of real property, return three members, and have more influence than the West Riding of Yorkshire, with a population of nearly a million? Or why should Ilton, with a population of little more than 3,000, and no more than 274 electors, have as much parliamentary influence as Liverpool, with its immense wealth, and more than 375,000 of population?

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY held her second levee this season on Wednesday at St. James's Palace.

THE QUEEN AND PRINCE CONSORT, accompanied by the Princesses Alice and Helena, visited the Countess de Neuilly at Claremont, on Thursday.

THE RUMOUR of Dr. Cullen's elevation to the College of Cardinals, is confirmed. He is to remain at Rome and be attached to the Propaganda. Dean Keiran, of Dundalk, is named as the person likely to be nominated co-adjutor-archbishop of Dublin.

A FIGHT between two gamekeepers and four poachers occurred a few days ago on the Brantinghamthorpe estate, near Hull, in which the former were worsted; three of the poachers were afterwards apprehended.

THE "PRESSE," which was considered the organ of the war party, was sold last week to M. Solar, the owner of the "Pays" and the "Constitution," both semi-official papers, thus avoiding every embarrassment.

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA has granted a concession for the establishment of a telegraph communication, overland, with America, through his Arctic dominions, and will supplement the concessionnaire with money and means.

THE NEW BOUNDARIES OF PARIS are now the fortifications. This raises the population of the metropolis to 1,523,503. Paris was before the most populous town on the continent; it now approaches more nearly to the population of London, which is upwards of 2,500,000.

THE WAR AUTHORITIES having decided on forming an Indian depot battalion at Chichester for East India depots, the battalion now at Walmer will be transferred to that station.

A FORM OF STATUTE has been promulgated in the Convocation of the University of Oxford, for omitting the sermons in the Christmas vacation, and for discontinuing the sermons on the days of the abolished state services.

A MAN COMMITTED SUICIDE by taking poison in Kendal Cemetery. The wretched creature had formed an attachment to a widow, which attachment was not returned, and when his dead body was found, it was lying at the headstone of her husband's grave.

AT THE MEETING OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE, on the 15th ultimo, prayer was offered by Father Boyle, a Catholic priest. Not a senator was in his seat at the opening hour, save one, who retired into the lobby during the prayer.

MR. SAMUEL LUCAS has declined to accept the Distributorship of Stamps at Derby, to which his appointment was recently announced.

THE DEATH OF MR. T. K. HERVEY, the writer of some volumes of pleasing poetry, is announced.

SIR FRANCIS G. MOON, Bart., who visited Paris when Lord Mayor of London, has just been nominated by the Emperor of the French Knight of the Legion of Honour.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL has given notice that the addresses on the margins of newspapers must be cut off before the latter can be sent through the post a second time. Obliterations of the original addresses is not deemed sufficient.

A STATUE TO LEONARDO DA VINCI is soon to be erected on the square opposite the Theatre della Scala, at Milan. It is the municipality, not the Austrian government, that pays for this monument.

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA has decided that the law passed last year prohibiting the immigration of Chinese is void on account of its unconstitutionality.

THE DANISH GOVERNMENT have given notice that on the 1st of September next they will redeem the entire outstanding balance, £697,200, of their 5 per cent. loan of £800,000 contracted in London in 1849.

M. FRANCIS SMEDLEY, High Bailiff of Westminster, died on Friday, the 25th ult. The week previous the High Sheriff of Southwark, Mr. Pritchard, died.

THE POLICE OF RENNES, last week, seized a great many articles of jewellery exposed for sale in that town, in consequence of their representing fleur-de-lis. These articles consisted principally of shirt-pins, buttons, &c. Orders have been given that persons wearing such articles in future shall be prosecuted.

GREAT ACTIVITY exists at the Mint, in consequence of the great demand for silver coin. Nearly a million of pieces are thrown off by the stamping-presses per week. Foreign mints are busily employed in the creation of small moneys, whilst the mints in the Indian Presidencies are also in full swing.

BOOKS AND PAPERS belonging to the French Government having been at different times abstracted from the archives and the public libraries, instructions have been given to all auctioneers to send regularly to the director-general of the archives of the empire a copy of all catalogues announcing sales of books, manuscripts, or autographs, which they may have to effect.

THE LORD BISHOP OF CAPE TOWN has delivered an interesting address to the Cotton Supply Association, at Manchester, on the "Commercial Resources and Prospects of South Africa."

EXPERIMENTS are being made at Paris to explode mines by electricity. The Imperial Guard is to be supplied in the course of next month with four batteries of the new rifle cannon. The Emperor will, it is said, be present at the trial of the guns at Versailles.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA has made the Protestants in Vienna a present of a piece of ground on which to build their school-house.

THE WHALING SEASON of 1858 has been very disastrous in the North Pacific; the ships have experienced heavy weather, much ice, and caught few fish.

A CARRIAGE CLEANER at the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Station, at Bradford, found a pocket-book containing notes and cheques of the value of £400. It belonged to Mr. George Atkins, of Halifax, to whom the carriage-cleaner restored it. Mr. Atkins rewarded him with the assurance that he was much obliged to him.

A COMMISSION was recently instructed by the French Government to establish a uniform musical diapason. The minister is recommended to authorise competent men to construct a "diapason type," executing 870 vibrations to the second, in a temperature of fifteen degrees centigrade. The new diapason, it is advised, should be compulsory in all theatres, schools, &c.

THE GREATEST LIBRARIES IN EUROPE are the Bibliothèque Impériale at Paris, containing 800,000 books; the British Museum, 500,000; Imperial Public Library at St. Petersburg, 320,000; Royal Library at Berlin, 300,000; Royal Library at Munich, 180,000; Royal Library at Copenhagen, 110,000; Imperial Library at Vienna, 365,000; University Library at Gottingen, 360,000; Royal Library at Breslau, 350,000; Royal Public Library at Dresden, 305,000.

A SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL EXPEDITION is being organised in Antwerp for a voyage round the world. The price demanded for the whole voyage, including provisions, is £160 for each cabin-passenger. The vessel is advertised to sail from Antwerp at the end of March, and the expedition is calculated to occupy fourteen months.

IN NEW YORK it is reported that Lord Lyons will remain in America only a few months, when he will be succeeded by Sir William Gore Ouseley.

A GREAT NUMBER OF HORSES are now being exported from England to the Continent.

THE CHRISTY MINSTRELS performed at the Tuilleries last week.

THE WINCHESTER ASSIZES were opened on Tuesday. These assizes will be the scene of a very remarkable trial, that of Mr. and Mrs. Banks for the Andover murder. Baron Watson made this the leading feature of his charge.

THE REV. GEORGE HILLS, D.D., late of the University of Durham, has been consecrated a Bishop of British Columbia.

THE QUEEN'S DECISION IN FAVOUR OF OTTAWA as the seat of Government of Canada was carried in the Legislative Assembly by a majority of five.

LORD DERBY convened a meeting of his supporters on Tuesday evening, and a very strong muster it was. Upwards of 200 members were present, who, it is said, agreed to support the Reform Bill, on the condition that the clause be persevered with which disenfranchises, quoad counties, all freeholders in boroughs.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THE political world is wrapped in a dense fog—so dense that it is almost impossible to see clearly a yard before us. Let us try whether we can, by steady gazing, discern a few facts, more or less distinct, looming through the mist. First, then, there is the notable fact that at Lord Derby's meeting, on Tuesday, 200 members were present, and that then and there these 200 resolved to support the second reading of the Government Reform Bill. Secondly, no other distinct party in the House can muster 200. Thirdly, the Radicals will unquestionably vote against the second reading; and it seems to be equally certain that Lord John Russell, who has since given a political dinner, will, with his small tail, *pro hac vice*, join the Radicals. These are three facts which we may discern more or less clearly. The question then remains to be solved—What will Lord Palmerston and the Whigs behind him do? On this head, much will depend upon the feeling manifested by the constituency of these gentlemen during the next three weeks; but, at present, my opinion is that the Whigs are inclined to support the measure. In their heart of hearts the Whig members do not want a Reform Bill at all; but they must have one of some sort. And it is probable that they may think that they can hardly expect a more moderate one than this. Moreover, let it be remarked, that this bill will be sure to enlist the support of all those members for small boroughs who, Bright, in his measure, proposes to send to the right about, but who are spared by the Government bill. Now, if the Whigs join the Conservatives in any considerable number, the second reading of the bill will be secured. But nothing is certain. A sagacious political prophet, to whom I have formerly alluded, assures me that the bill will pass. I confess, however, that though he has seldom failed me, I do not rely, with much confidence, upon his vaccination in this instance. In fact, I can form no strong opinion. Never, in my time, have political parties been in such confusion. The secession of Messrs. Henley and Walpole is unquestionably a heavy blow and great discouragement to the Government. Both are respectable men, and Mr. Henley is a very able man. I do not believe, however, that either of these gentlemen have any followers. The loss to the Government by this secession is a loss of moral rather than numerical support. Mr. Sootheron Estcourt, who goes to the Home-office, *vice* Mr. Walpole, is quite equal in efficiency to his predecessor, which is not saying much. Lord Lovaine will be a very poor substitute in the House of Commons for the sagacious, hard-headed Henley as the representative of the Board of Trade. The Earl of March is a Lennox; what fitness he has for the presidency of the Poor-law Board remains to be seen, for he has never, to my knowledge, opened his lips in the House yet. And as to Mr. Lygon—who came into Parliament at the late general election for the first time, and who is now made a lay Lord of the Admiralty, in place of Lord Lovaine—all I have to say is, that he speaks fluently and dresses remarkably well. Mr. Lygon is the son of the Earl of Beauchamp. Lord Lovaine is a Percy, the eldest son of the Earl of Beverley, who is presumptive-heir of the Duke of Northumberland. Lord Donoughmore, who is now President of the Board of Trade, is entirely unknown in political life. He is the fourth earl. The first was a military commander in Egypt, succeeded Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and was made Earl Donoughmore for his military services.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

MR. and MRS. ALFRED WIGAN, have returned to the stage, and made their *entrée* at the ADELPHI on Monday. They were very warmly received. Mr. Wigan's health seems entirely restored.

A very slight and pointless farce has been produced at the HAYMARKET, for the purpose of introducing a *débutante*, a Miss Allen. The young lady has talent, but as yet is very amateurish.

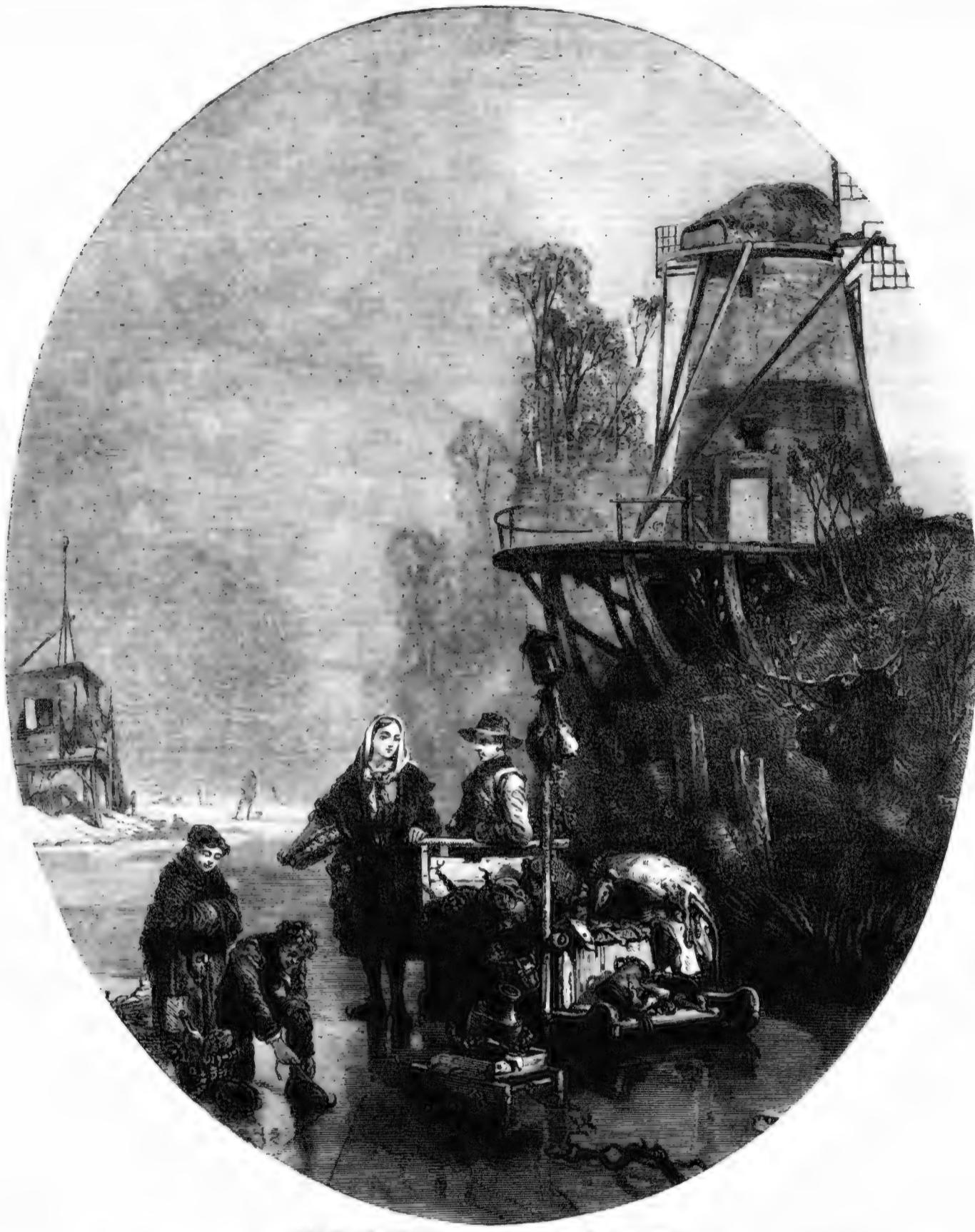
MR. and MRS. BARNEY WILLIAMS are playing at the LYCEUM.

WINTER IN HOLLAND.

OUR illustration of "Winter in Holland," from a clever picture of Le Poerlin's, will restore to the reader's memory the cold, the snow, and the ice, of which for a whole year we have been entirely deprived. Here we have sunshine and spring days, and but little frost even in severe seasons; whereas in Holland the watery highways are frozen over, and the market-boat plies from village to village, is laid up secure. But though the boats are stopped, communication is not; but, on the contrary, has become even more lively. Now is the time when the peasant claps his (or her) skates on his (or her) feet, a basket of eggs, butter, poultry, or other rural produce on his (or her) head, and speeds over the ice rapidly and surely for miles and miles. We are afraid to say how many leagues can be accomplished, how many village markets visited, in a single day. Such, however, are the advantages of this style of locomotion, that it is resorted to at every opportunity, and is made the means of visiting distant parts of the country among people who have neither the money nor the time to perform the journey by those methods which are considered more orthodox.

JAPANESE DANCE.

DANCING in China and Japan possesses by no means the same characteristics as in India and the Mussulman countries generally. In these extremities of the eastern continent, the impassioned and voluptuous movements of the Bayadère and Nautch girls are unknown. Terpsichore finds sorry representatives in men, whose abrupt and ungainly motions, devoid of meaning, are merely wearying to look upon. Rapidly, drollness, and difficulty of movement, are all that these *saltimbanches* aim at, and they are admirably seconded in their jumps and starts by the vigorous manner in which the guitar and drum are tortured for anything but sweet sounds.



WINTER IN HOLLAND.—(FROM A PICTURE BY E. LE POITVIN.)



JAPANESE DANCE.



THE CHINCHA ISLANDS, PERU.

CARVED STONE FOUND ON THE CHINCHA OR GUANO ISLANDS, PERU.

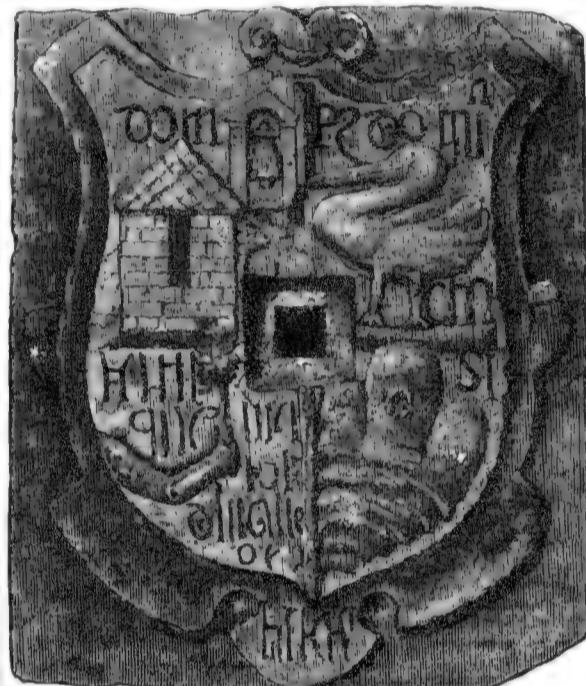
In 1847, this curious stone was discovered on the North Chincha Island, under eighteen feet of guano. Now, if we suppose the stone to have been there 200 years, this would give a deposit of guano by the birds of one inch per year.

This stone, with its quaint armorial bearings, may have been brought from old Spain, and may have been intended for insertion over the doorway of a building belonging to some former owner of the island. In the first compartment are the letters D O M, a church or house, and a bell. In the second, are letters that may stand for Pedro; the figure of a pelican (of which there are myriads about there), and the letters A D N. In the third, there is an arm holding a star or light. The only word to be made out here is Q U E M A, which in Spanish means *burns*. In the fourth division, three islands are depicted, intended for the three Chincha, and the undulating lines are meant to represent the sea. The word S I, or "yes," is in the corner.

This stone was brought from the coast of Peru to Messrs. Seymour, Peacock, and Co. (to whom we are indebted for the drawing), and is about to be presented to the British Museum.

The term "guano" is from the Indian word *huana*, which describes its nature. It was used as a manure long before Peru was discovered by the Spaniards. The Incas took unusual precautions for securing the benefits of this important article, and no one was allowed to set foot on the islands during the season when the birds breed, under pain of death. The guano covers islands and cliffs, and in some spots lies in such enormous beds as could only be produced by the accumulation of thousands of years.

The writer of these remarks visited the Chincha islands a few years since. The work of excavating the guano was done by Chinese, and there were 250 to 300 ships loading. Many said there was guano only for eight or ten years, if taken away in such large quantities as at that time. However, in an article on the "Guano Diggers," in "Household Words" (1853), the writer estimated that there were 250,000,000 tons in the Chincha islands, and that it would take 180 years to clear them. The value of the deposits was estimated at twelve hundred and fifty millions of pounds sterling!



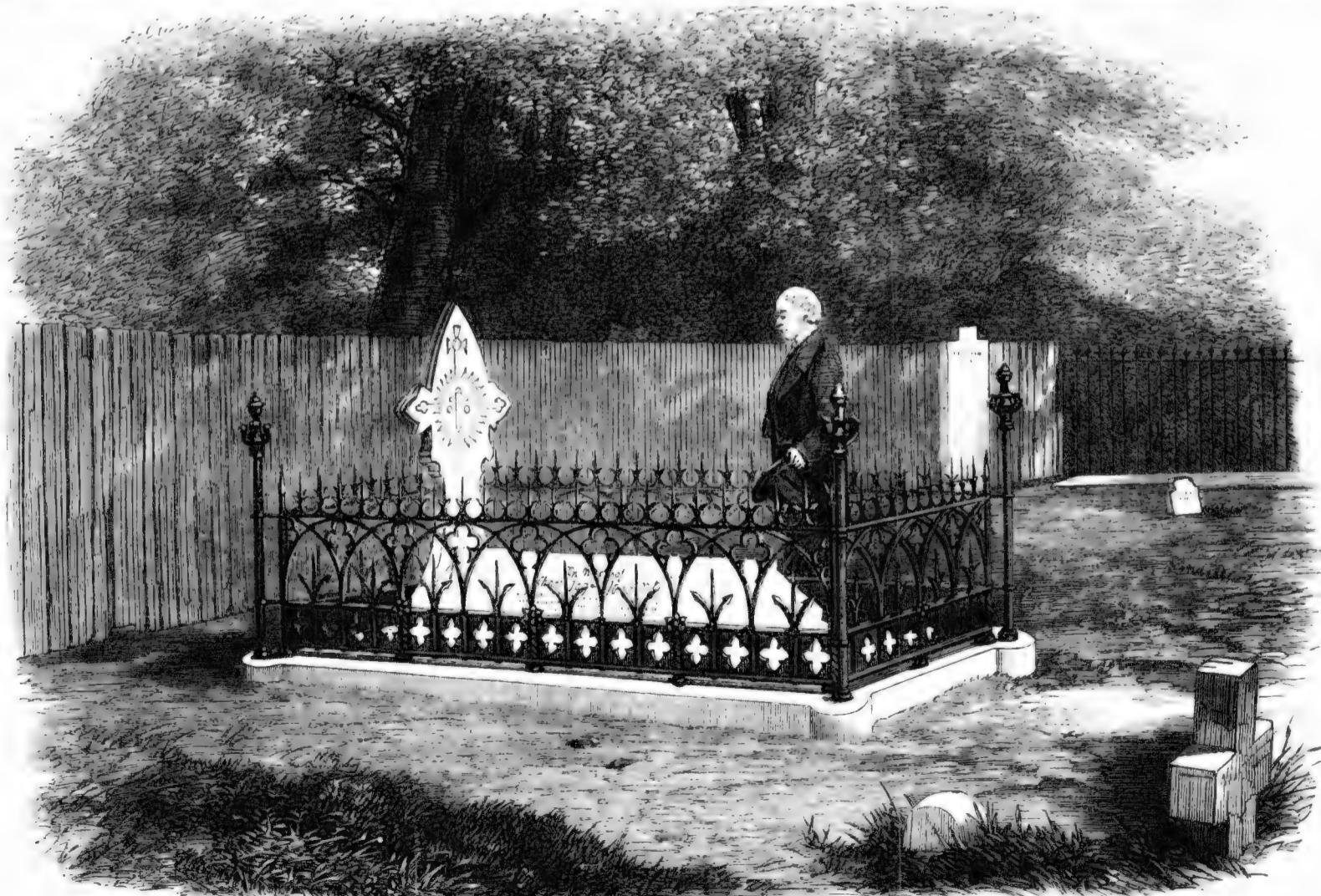
CARVED STONE FOUND IN THE CHINCHA ISLANDS.

THE TOMB OF THE BISHOP OF LONDON.

NEAR the north-west corner of the ancient burial-ground attached to the parish church of All Saints, Fulham, and surrounding it, the late Bishop of London was interred on the 11th of August, 1857. In another part of this burial-ground, eight other prelates of the same see have been buried; but it may be doubted whether any one of their resting-places is approached with more reverence than his is calculated to awaken.

The humble monument placed by his lordship's family over the grave, of which he himself had selected the spot long before his death, scarcely differs in its general character, though the material is more costly and the design appropriate and chaste, from that of the generality of those which now crowd the cemetery. It consists of a mere head and foot stone of Sicilian marble, with a well-carved crosier surmounting a block of the same material that connects them together, and a scroll folded round the crosier, bearing the inscription, "orando et vigilando." But there is not a word of eulogy or comment, nor any other record beyond a simple recital of name and date, with the text given at length round the base of it from Revelation, xiv. 13. The monument was designed by Arthur W. Blomfield, Esq., and the annexed engraving, taken from an admirable photograph by Mr. Smallcombe, of Edgeware Road, conveys a faithful representation of it.

There are many readers of these lines who will be glad to learn that this simple memorial of a great and good man, in the corner of a suburban churchyard, will not be the only record of what his country and church owe to the character and energies of their late metropolitan prelate. A measure is now in contemplation, and will very soon, as we believe, be announced publicly, for erecting, by a general subscription, within the walls of his own cathedral, a monument to his memory. The proposal has been welcomed with a cordial spirit, and with promises of support by nearly all the most distinguished men of all parties and opinions in the political and theological world, each of them answering the appeal made to them with a readiness that confers equal honour upon the bishop and themselves.



TOMB OF BISHOP BLOMFIELD AT FULHAM.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY J. C. SMALLCOMBE.)

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

"CHALONS—*the Camp*," the opening article in the new number of *Blackwood*, should be read by all—by those who merely look through magazine literature for amusement, and by the few who hope to find therein material for reflection. The first-named class will be at once sufficiently repaid by the graphic description, the animated sketches, and the tone of spirited, healthy good nature which pervades the paper; the last will admire the strong and subtle reasoning, the impartial criticism, and the boldness with which words of necessary though naturally unpalatable warning are outspoken. Such a vivid, sunny, and yet veracious picture of French military life has never yet been given to us, while the moral to be deduced from the comparison of French and English camps, is put in a healthy spirit, devoid of carping and sneers, yet so strongly put as to be, one would imagine, sharp enough to penetrate through that armour of proof composed of tape and foolscap which encompasses the breasts of the chieftains of that worst of all circumlocutories, the War-office. Even more amusing, though from the nature of its subject less intrinsically interesting, is the next article, on "Clothes and Scarecrows," in which the writer descants, with an earnestness veiled under much chaffing levity of manner, on the dresses of all nations and all classes, and on the duty of all men to dress as well as their means will afford them. I sympathise with his regard for his old clothes, connected as each and all of them must be with many pleasing reminiscences, and his dislike to sell them to unbelieving Jews; I fully hold with him that no man, on the score of "genius," has a right to be dirty or slovenly; I cordially concur with his mockery of men who, simply because they find themselves in the Highlands, must needs attire themselves in tartan and philabeg; and I only dissent mildly from his own notion of what is the most proper dress for a gentleman in modern days. The article is a worthy companion to Lady Eastlake's essay on "The Art of Dress," and, with a little extension, would equally well stand the test of republication. This March number is throughout excellent: there is a good bit of spirited description, "The Turks in Kalafat," more of which is to come; a profound and searching article on "Castes and Creeds in India"; a favourable review of Mr. Dasset's "Norse Tales"; and two political papers, respectively on "Italy" and "Napoleon the Third and Europe." There is also the commencement of a new tale, "The Luck of Ladysmeide," which smacks a good deal of the "by'r lady" and "itackius" school of authorship.

FRASER is also varied and excellent. The editor has prevailed on Mr. Arthur Helps to let him have an anticipatory fragment of his forthcoming new series of "Friends in Council;" and we find our old acquaintances, Ellersmore and Milverton, discussing, with all their old keenness, vivacity, and quaintness of simile and illustration, the subject of "War," and principally that portion of it which relates to the evil of the maintenance of large standing armies in time of peace. The "Vagabond," who, through the medium of this magazine, furnishes his brethren with "hints," is this month delightfully chatty about Venice, which he describes in a thoroughly original manner, knocking over established conventionalities with thorough unconcern, and giving his own impressions with great freedom and originality. The usual natural history essay treats of "The Shark." There is the continuation of the serial "Holmby House;" an earnest and graceful "*in memoriam*" tribute to the late Mr. Prescott; and an eulogistic review by Mr. Peacock, of Dr. Donahus's continuation of Professor Müller's "History of Greek Literature."

The first number of a new monthly publication, the *UNIVERSAL REVIEW*, deserves a cordial welcome. Professedly based upon the plan of the "Revue des Deux Mondes," it exhibits much of the scholarly spirit, the freedom and independence of thought, and the thorough geniality of tone, which mark its distinguished prototype. The opening article on "Literature and Life" is admirable, hitting the case to a nicety, taking the middle course between the reckless Mohockism of Bohemia, and the affected kid-glove refinement of the "Saturday Review." All the articles are excellent, but I would specially point out a well-deserved attack on "Christmas Pieces," a biographical notice of Hallam, and a review of Owen Meredith's "Wanderer."

TITAN is scarcely so good this month, with the exception of the serial story, "Getting on," which is excellent. There is an absence of hack-writing and imitation in the descriptive portions and character sketches which is most refreshing; the author knows life, and tells what he has seen originally and powerfully: it is a pity that one finds traces here and there of carelessness; the groundwork of the story is so good, that the writing deserves polishing and re-touching.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN'S JOURNAL contains its average amount of excellent matter. "Training Schools for Female Servants," "How to Utilize the Powers of Women," and "Fashion versus Health," are three admirable essays, written with the earnestness and feeling which have characterised all the productions of the contributors to this very praiseworthy work. A short paper, called "Still Life," is remarkable for the quaint fidelity and Dutch minuteness of its sketching.

The AMATEURS' MAGAZINE is very poor indeed. A story called "Greaveswick for Concheavers," is uninteresting, and offensively vulgar. No one can doubt the bravery of "Major C. L. Edwards," now that he has had the courage to print his name to such verses, as "The Foundling of Delhi!"

The best paper in the ECLECTIC is a little bit of mystery-revelation and description, by a sub-editor, of the *penetralia* of a newspaper-office. It is cleverly and veraciously done.

THE METROPOLITAN POLICE.—The total number of men belonging to this force is 6,133, of whom 18 are superintendents, 113 inspectors, 623 sergeants, and 5,355 constables. The pay is not by any means uniformly the same in each class. Thus, of the 18 superintendents, one only has £40 a year, one other £325 and the rest £250. Of the 113 inspectors, 4 have £200 a year, 102, £118 a year, and the remainder sums varying in amount between £170 and £50. The great majority of the sergeants, 603 out of the 623, have £63 a year, and 7 only have £109. The pay of the constables is not uniform, but a large majority receive £19, and two £78, being the highest pay on the list. The total sum paid for the Metropolitan Police in the year 1858, was £484,292. The total receipts during the same period, including a balance of £36,500 in hand at the beginning of the year, were £513,000, so that a balance of £23,800 remained in hand on the 31st of December, 1858. The bulk of the income is derived from two sources—the parish rates and the Treasury, the former being the most productive. £300,850 is the sum raised by a parish rate of 3d. in the pound, and £100,283 the amount received from the Treasury, being a third of the former sum. The remainder of the receipts are obtained from parliamentary votes, and in return for special services rendered by the police at Osborne, the Houses of Parliament, the British Museum, and the public palaces. Public companies, private individuals, and theatres, also subscribe a share to the amount of £6,421.

THE PREPAID LETTER QUESTION.—By command of the Postmaster-General, Mr. Rowland Hill notifies to the public that "the regulation recently promulgated, that after the 10th instant all inland letters should be prepaid, is repealed; and the rules previously in force as regards inland letters, either wholly unpaid or insufficiently paid, will henceforth be reverted to."

THE "EXPECTATION OF LIFE."—Every man, woman, and child has a property in life. What is the value of this property? Mr. Charles W. Willrich has established an extremely easy rule for expressing this value—this "expectation of life"—at any age from five to sixty. His formula stands thus:— $\frac{1}{2}(80-a)$; or, in plain words, the expectation of life is equal to two-thirds of the difference between the age of the party and eighty. Thus, say a man is now twenty years old. Between that age and eighty there are sixty years. Two-thirds of sixty are forty—and this is the sum of his expectation of life. If a man be now sixty, he will have an expectation of nearly fourteen years more. By the same rule, a child of five has a life for fifty years. Every one can apply the rule to his own age. Mr. Willrich's hypothesis may be easily remembered as that by De Moivre in the last century, which has now become obsolete, from the greater accuracy of mortality tables. The results obtained by the new law correspond very closely with those of Dr. Farr's English Life Table, constructed with great care from an immense mass of returns.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

A STRANGE experiment has been tried at Drury Lane—that of converting a standard drama into an opera. "William and Susan," produced on Monday last at the half-dramatic, half-lyrical establishment of Mr. H. T. Smith, is not founded on the ballad of "Black-eyed Susan," as stated in the bills, but on Douglas Jerrold's well-known play of that name. We believe there is some doubt whether the law of England gives an author a complete right to dispose of his own work, but if it be allowable for Mr. Reynoldson to take the situations and characters of "Black-eyed Susan," strip them of the brilliant dialogue with which they have hitherto been associated, and substitute for Jerrold's wit his own common-place songs, then there is simply an end to dramatic literature in this country. Adapters from the French may burn their dictionaries, or, at all events, lay them by for a period. Let them compress the "Lady of Lyons" into three acts, do the "Hunchback" into prose, cut down "London Assurance" into a farce, and in each case the mutilator will be permitted to call himself author, if Mr. Reynoldson is allowed to call himself the author of the "opera" now in course of representation at Drury Lane Theatre. It is true, Mr. Reynoldson does not claim to have produced more than "the words" of the piece; but a piece cannot exist by words alone. The words spring more or less naturally from the incidents and characters, and the latter are evidently not the property of Mr. Reynoldson.

The music which Mr. Tully has written to Mr. Reynoldson's words is simple and without pretension. The audience were so pleased with it, that in the first act alone there were no less than three encores, to say nothing of the chorus and hornpipes with which the act terminates, and which were probably re-demanded for the sake of the young ladies in marine pantaloons who figured in the dance. Of the plot of the piece we need not speak. The part of the Captain (who, instead of Crostroe, is called Cameron) is taken by Mr. Rosenthal; that of William by Mr. Haigh. Miss Huddart is Bella Primrose (the Mary Mayfield of the original); and the heroine Susan is represented by Miss Lucette. There is also a minor character, Dicky Daisy, who, like Danilovitch, comes in selling "posies." Susan's first ballad—a slow, sentimental melody in triple time—was sung very pleasingly by Miss Lucette, who has a soprano voice, and sufficient skill to execute satisfactorily the music with which the composer has supplied her. The Captain's song on the subject of "Sweet See-usan" (to adopt Mr. Rosenthal's pronunciation) is written on the Balfe model. It proved effective, and received a loud encore, a compliment which had previously been paid to Miss Lucette for her rendering of her solo.

In the second act, a glee and chorus on the subject of the "Flying Dutchman" is one of the most carefully-written in the drama. William's song (with chorus), "The Boatman of the Downs," is, however, the great song of the piece. The solo verses were given to Mr. Haigh, and, thanks to the pleasing voice of the singer, and to the real merit of the music, the composition was received by the audience with much applause.

The second act closes with a regularly-constructed finale.

The third act is principally remarkable, in a musical point of view, for a pretty ballad, "We were Playmates," charmingly sung by Miss Huddart. The trial scene in the state cabin is not suited for musical illustration, and we agree with one of our contemporaries, that "the effect of the admiral standing upon his seat, and in a voice husky and out of tune with emotion, sentencing William to be executed, is anything but impressive."

We must not conclude our notice of "Susan and William" without calling attention to the extraordinary beauty of Mr. Beverley's view of the Downs, with the fleet riding at anchor in the distance.

Covent Garden is to be opened on the 2nd of April. The engagements comprise—Madame Grisi, Mlle. Didié, Mlle. Marai, Madame Tagliafico, Madame Leva, and Madame Bosio. To these are added Mlle. Lotti de la Santa (from the Imperial Opera at St. Petersburg), and Mlle. Delphine Calderon (from the Fenice Theatre at Venice), who will make their first appearance in England. Then we have Signors Mario, Luchesi, Rossi, Neri Baraldi, Gardoni, Tamberlick, Ronconi, Tagliafico, Polonini, Zelzer, Graziani (whom Mr. Smith says he has engaged), and Signor Debassini (from the Imperial Opera at St. Petersburg, his first appearance at the Royal Italian Opera).

"Don Giovanni" is to be repeated with the great cast of last season, and we are promised "La Gazza Ladra," "Martha," "Rigoletto," and "Il Giuramento." Mr. Gye hopes also to produce Meyerbeer's new opera, before the close of the season; but as it has not yet appeared in Paris, he does not undertake to give it, positively.

The Royal English Opera has now been visited three times by her Majesty—Mr. Balf's "Satanella" being played on each occasion. The opera by Mr. Bristow, which was to have been produced in the beginning of March, has been put off until the autumn, and the present season will close in a very few weeks.

The second concert of the Musical Society, in spite of what must be considered a more than indifferent programme, went off most satisfactorily. The first part was devoted to mediocrity, which, according to Mr. Bright's principles, has a right to be represented as much as anything else, though we believe no one claims for it the privilege of exclusive representation. It began with Niel Gade's Highland overture and ended with a very ordinary "duet for pianoforte and orchestra," by Mr. Silas. Between the instrumental compositions, came two *scenæ*; one old—from Purcell's "Indian Queen"—which was sung with appropriate solemnity by Mr. Santley; and one new—from the portfolio of that accomplished musician, Mr. Henry Smart—to which ample justice was done by Miss Dolby. However, in the second part, Spohr's symphony, the "Power of Sound," was executed so perfectly by Mr. Mellon's orchestra as at once to atone for the uninteresting nature of the previous pieces. In the "Awakening of Life," in the first movement; in the second movement, where the cradle song, the dance, and the serenade, are heard first separately and then in combination; in the march of triumph, the dirge, and the hymn of consolation—in fact, throughout the symphony, the band was magnificent. The orchestra of the Musical Society of London is certainly the finest of the day.

"Solomon," which had long been in rehearsal, was produced last week at Exeter Hall. "Solomon" is certainly not one of the finest of Handel's oratorios. Except here and there, the music does not rise above prettiness on the one hand, and melodrama on the other. Considered as a whole, it possesses neither sublimity, nor elaboration, nor even great beauty—three characteristics which are abundantly manifested in the composer's greatest works. But what, it may be asked, could any composer make out of such a theme—containing neither passion, nor poetry, nor incidents of any dramatic importance? The first part of the oratorio is only remarkable, in a musical point of view, for the chorus "May no rash intruder disturb their soft hours," which, however, is one of the most effective Handel ever wrote. Dramatically speaking, it consists of the praises of Solomon's piety, the dedication of the Temple, and the love dialogue between Solomon and his queen, which concludes with the chorus already mentioned. That such a chorus—a kind of epithalamium—should be introduced into a sacred work at all, appears in the present day quite unaccountable. The second section of the oratorio is devoted to the wisdom of Solomon, and includes the celebrated scene between the two mothers disputing for the child, together with Solomon's judgment thereupon. Nothing can be more unfit for music than this, and the result is a tedious succession of recitatives and airs with little or no musical interest. Handel has profited, however, by the opening hymn, "From the censer," which he has turned into a picturesque and dramatic chorus, overflowing with fancy and ingenuity. The remainder of the music in this section, with the exception of a glimpse of power here and there, is monotonous to insipidity. The third part, in which the Queen of Sheba comes to behold the magnificence of Solomon, possesses infinitely more variety. The music with which Solomon entertains the Queen gives occasion for several choruses of marked character and beauty.

The recitatives and airs in "Solomon" are for the most part without character. There is beauty, however, in the pastoral melody,

"Beneath the vine." "What though I trace," is also full of feeling, nor is "Thy sentence, O king," without pathos. Zadok, the priest, has but one effective air, "Golden Column," which Mr. Montem Smith sang effectively enough. The other singers were Miss Dally (Solomon), Mrs. Weis (the Queen), and Madame Catherine Hayes (the other Queen). These artists did full justice to the not very remarkable music entrusted to them. The chorus was admirable from beginning to end, and did infinite credit to the training of Mr. Costa

LAW AND CRIME.

THE omnibus monopolists received last week a severe lesson, by means of an action in the Common Pleas. An omnibus proprietor who had struck upon a line in which he imagined his capital might be advantageously employed to the public benefit, started three omnibuses to run from Islington to Brompton. One of the managers of the General Omnibus Company had thereupon an interview with the enterprising proprietor, and proposed to purchase his vehicles with the apportionments for absorption into the monopoly. The proprietor declined the terms offered, whereupon the well-known system of "nursing" was at once put into operation to crush the enterprise. Twenty-four omnibuses of the General Company were put upon the road to crush the scheme, not by fair competition, but by the unfair and dangerous plan of so surrounding vehicles as to impede their progress, and to render public access to them a matter of difficulty if not of impossibility. The new owner, instead of resorting to the dubious course of criminal proceeding for conspiracy, adopted his remedy at common law, and brought an action for compensation. By advice of the judge, the master formed the subject of a private conference, the result of which was a verdict of £400 damages against the monopolists.

In a trial which occupied several days last week, Mr. Edwin James was counsel for the plaintiff. Of the matter in dispute, we can only say that it was not of a kind to justify detail in this column. Nevertheless, to the plaintiff and defendant it was of vital importance. At an important crisis of the trial Mr. James was absent. His junior, Mr. Barnard, declared that Mr. James had lost his voice in haranguing electors at Marylebone, and Mr. Barnard requested an adjournment of the case. This application was entertained by judge and jury. Mr. James entered the court, and expressed his "regret at having caused the inconvenience." He knew, as he said, it was a case of great importance to his client. The Lord Chief Justice said it was one of the most important cases heard in Westminster Hall for many years, and recommended Mr. James to his husband his voice till next day. The case was adjourned till the following day. Then, Mr. James did not appear, being engaged in again haranguing the Marylebone electors. Mr. James's client lost his cause, and Mr. James succeeded in obtaining a majority of votes to carry himself into Parliament, to the great honour of the profession to which he belongs.

A curious question is arising in districts on the boundaries of the four-mile circle from Charing Cross, with respect to cab law. A cabman is hired, say at Shepherd's Bush, for a distance, perhaps, not more than half a mile, commencing within, and terminating just without, the four-mile circle. The case is not imaginary, but occurs actually every wet Sunday to ladies returning from church. The cabman charges 1s. 6d. for the distance, being 6d. for the "part of a mile" within the four-mile circle, and 1s. for the "part of a mile" beyond it. The imposition, being in accordance with the letter of the Act, is generally successful. To meet it, when attempted, immediately order the cabman to drive back to the nearest point within the circle to make the distance travelled exactly one mile. His fare will then be sixpence only, as he will be discharged within the circle. His having been beyond it previously to his discharge will make no difference. A legal lesson in this way will do him good.

Lord Brougham has brought into the Lords a bill for the examination of prisoners in criminal cases. The bill is a sad error, and is not likely to pass. It proposes, in the first place, that the examination is to be optional on the part of the prisoner. This defeats itself: as any prisoner declining it, would of course be prejudiced in the opinion of his judges by such refusal. Then—prisoners are to be sworn on the four Evangelists, and to be liable to prosecution for perjury. How absurd will this be in the case of capital or other highly penal offences! B swears A committed a murder. A swears he did not. A is convicted upon clear evidence, sentenced to be hanged, and—is liable to be indicted for perjury. Or, A is acquitted. How is he to be proved guilty of perjury, unless by evidence proving him to be guilty of murder, in spite of a verdict to the contrary? And, even supposing his falsehood to be clear, where is the "corrupt" element necessary to the establishment of perjury? It may be considered corrupt to swear falsely to hang another, but is it "corrupt" in law to do one's utmost in defence of one's own neck? Then, the prisoner is not to refuse to answer questions tending to degrade him. A fine handle, this, to a vindictive prosecutor, or an unscrupulous counsel! The bill starts from a wrong point at the beginning, and even in a misconception of the French procedure upon which it is alleged to be based. What is required is, that the judge shall have the power of questioning a prisoner, without putting him upon his oath. Such a course would tend equally to the exculpation of the innocent and to the confusion of the guilty. Not being upon oath, the prisoner gives his answers for what they may be worth, and the judge, having no interest one way or the other, shapes his questions as he may see best in order to elicit truth.

An illustration of the way in which our laws are made was last week afforded through the medium of one Thomas Marsh, described as master of the Vine hounds. The Vine hounds had, it seems, had a fruitless run after a fox, who, after affording the hounds and the gentry who followed a rational enjoyment, provided for his own by diving into a hole in the earth. Thomas Marsh had the hole dug into, and captured the fox alive. He kept it chained in his dairy till the following Sunday; then he ordered one of its legs to be cut off, and when this had been done let loose his pack, and destroyed the maimed animal. For this he was brought up before the Kingsclere petty sessions. Now, let it be thoroughly understood that we have nothing to say against Mr. Thomas Marsh. His nature impels him to cut off the leg of a captured fox and to set hounds upon it upon a Sunday, just as the fox's nature impels it to seek refuge in the earth when pressed by dogs. Both are very beautiful exemplifications of the force of nature operating upon various forms of the brute creation, and we should expect that any argument or sarcasm of ours would have just as much effect in the one case as in the other in producing a contrary result. But Mr. Marsh, on account of this feat of hunting, was brought before the Kingsclere magistrates, charged with having thereby violated the law. Now, there is an act expressly prohibiting the torturing of any animal, under certain penalties. To this act there are what are called "interpretation clauses." One interpretation clause kindly informs English judicial authorities the meaning of the word "animal." That word is thereby enacted to mean "any horse" (here follow the names of every known domestic animal) "and every other domestic animal." Now, if domestic animal had been exclusively intended, nothing would have been easier than to save this interpretation clause by inserting the adjective in the operative portion of the act. As it is, supposing that an interpretation can limit a meaning, instead of extending it, as it is ordinarily understood to do, the Kingsclere magistrates were right in reluctantly dismissing the charge against Mr. Marsh, on the ground that, as a fox is not a domestic animal, the act prohibiting the torturing of animals is not to be held to apply to foxes.

A DEMOCRATIC MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN CONGRESS is accused of having demanded 400 dollars of a claimant before he would report a certain bill from his committee.

AN ANCIENT CHARTER of incorporation for the town of Bala, in Merionethshire, North Wales, has lately been discovered, and the inhabitants have determined upon renewing the same. It appears that this charter, constituting Bala a municipality and a corporate town, was granted by Edward I., in the twelfth century.

POLICE.

MRS. JONES'S MAMMA.—George Jones, aged four, was charged with attempting to pick pockets at St. Hall, and also with having in his possession a pocket-watch, and a purse containing £2 11s. 11d., with a railway-pass, supposed to be stolen. The boy was tried twice, and he deserved the prison. The boy's mother, a widow, followed him into Regent Street, where the young gentleman got into a cab. Prisoner, standing in the street close by, began calling out for Mr. Payne's wife. Witness asked what he was shouting about, and replied that his "mamma" was in the hall, and merely inquiring for the carriage, and lived in the Park. He cried and said he was respectable, a man who had entered the carriage intended on a visit; but witness refused to let him go. I then told him he could not go. On returning to the station he found £1 11s. 11d. in two pockets. On asking how he came to get the money, he explained that his "mamma" had given it him for pocket-money. On a second visit to the station he found £1 11s. 11d. in two railway-passes in the name of Budd, and a lady's pocket-watch, with the ring broken, fell from the pocket; he refused his address. The constable found the things, and was remanded, as with the name "W. W. Davis" were found on

THE WHITECROSS SIRFER JAIL ACT.—Robert Hay, a grocer, was brought up before Alderman Finniss, 21, with untruthfully conveying spirits into Whitecross Street, against the regulations of the jail. This Leigh, a constable from the debtors' prison in Whitecross Street, said he stopped the defendant as he was leaving, and found in his hat a small bottle containing about a gill of brandy. The defendant said he had seen the notice in the prison against taking in spirits, but thought it related only to quantities, and not to such a little drop as he had taken. Alderman Finniss said great irregularities had existed in prison, and the authorities were determined to put an end to them. The penalty under the Act was fixed at not more than £20, or less than £10, or three months imprisonment; but under Jervis's Act the magistrate was empowered to further mitigate the penalty, and he would therefore take into consideration that this was not a very serious case, and mitigate the penalty to £5, or in default one month's imprisonment. The fine was paid.

In the course of the afternoon another person, who gave the name of John Brookes, was convicted of a similar offence, and fined £5.

The defendant, with much astonishment, said he was prepared with £5, and applied for a day's time to be allowed to get the money.

Alderman Finniss said he had no power under the Prison Act to allow time, and if, therefore, the money could not be paid before the closing of the court, the defendant would have to go to prison for a month.

The defendant was then detained while a friend went in most of the money.

—One of the many hardships arising out of the arbitrary provisions of the Whitecross Street Jail Act, which not only imposes a penalty totally at variance with the offence, but throws obstacles in the way of the recovery of fines, by restricting the time for payment, by which highly respectable persons may and have been sent to prison with felonies for the simple reason that they forgot to put £5 in their pockets when they left home in the morning. Since the recent riotous proceedings in the jail, the most rigorous measures have been taken, but notwithstanding the heavy penalties which are now invariably imposed, there were fewer cases at this court when the fine was 5s. or 10s., than now with not less £5 or £10.

A FASHIONABLE PICKPOCKET AND A COURAGEOUS LADY.—Elizabeth Harwell, a fashionably-dressed female, was brought before Mr. Combe, charged with picking the pocket of Mrs. Rachel Fry, a lady residing in Bermondsey. The prosecutrix said that between eight and nine on Saturday night she was looking in at a shop window, when she felt some one push rudely against her on the side where her pocket was. Witness immediately put her hand down and caught a hand in her pocket just pulling her port-monnaie out. She turned on one side, and found that it belonged to the prisoner, who begged her to let her go, as she had made a mistake. Witness, however, knew better, and held her, although a number of her companions surrounded witness and pushed her about violently. After struggling several minutes, a constable came up and took prisoner into custody. Had the officer not come up at the time, prisoner must have been rescued, as witness was nearly overpowered.

Mr. Combe asked whether the prisoner was known?—Acting-inspector Gardner said she was a companion of railway and omnibus thieves, and he believed she had been convicted.

Mr. Combe asked her whether she would be tried by him or go to the sessions for trial?—She replied that she would be tried by his Worship. She was guilty.

Mr. Combe sentenced her to four months' hard labour.

MONOMANIA.—A young man, who gave the name Missoni, stepped into the witness-box, evidently under the influence of extreme melancholy. He commenced by informing the court that he was a corpse. Mr. Bingham observed that he seemed a very lively one. Applicant—"I assure your Worship that it is a fact, I am now nothing but a corpse!" Mr. Bingham—"All I can say is that your friends ought to see you, with as little delay as possible, decently interred. Can you make known your wishes?" Applicant replied that he was under the influence of spirits and imp. Mr. Bingham told him he need be under no apprehension from such spirits as he imagined. Applicant stated that he was constantly being operated on by a neighbour, who kept him in back parlour a dead body, and had, by clairvoyance, extracted from him the living principle, infusing into him, in exchange, the fluid from the dead person, and that this operation had been going on from September last. Hoping to cut off the mesmeric current he had since been to the Continent, thinking the channel between himself and the body acted on to his principle would neutralise the effect, but found himself irresistibly drawn back as much under the same influence as ever. He wished the magistrate would disentangle him from the mesmeric action; for if this was not done, he certainly should be obliged to give up the ghost. Being kindly and soothingly told that his wish should be complied with, and that he would speedily perceive the beneficial effect in his rapid recovery, the poor fellow left the court greatly comforted.

THE MANSLAUGHTER IN THE HAMPSTEAD ROAD.—Mr. J. P. Lewis, timber merchant, was indicted at the Central Criminal Court for the manslaughter of Mr. John H. Burrows, clothier, of the Hampstead Road.

From the reports of the case, which have already appeared in this journal, it will be recollected that the parties had formerly been on intimate terms, but a quarrel arose between them, and on the 27th of January, Lewis entered the shop of Burrows, and challenged him to fight. A blow was struck, which knocked Burrows down. In falling, he struck against the handle of the door, which inflicted a severe wound on the head, and instantly caused death. There had been great provocation on the part of Burrows.

The jury returned a verdict of Guilty, but strongly recommended him to mercy. He was sentenced to two months' imprisonment in Newgate.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

Ter statements made in both Houses of Parliament to the effect that the French and American bonds will be shortly withdrawn from the Papal dominions, have nothing to do with any advantage to be derived from the securities. The market, however, has been for some time past in a state of much uncertainty, and the 3 per cent. Consols have been the only bonds to be sold, and the New Spain, 4 per cent., and the Bank of England, 3 per cent., have sold at 18s. to 19s. and 18s. to 19s. respectively. The bond is now marked 18s. 1d.

There has been an improved demand for money. Nevertheless, no change has taken place in the rates of discount, the best commercial paper having been down in Lombard Street at 2 to 2½ per cent. The money, however, is very abundant, and may be had at 2½ per cent. for short periods.

On Monday, 1st March, due on the second issue of Turkish 5 per cent. was paid to the contractors.

The dealings in the foreign house have been very moderate. Austrian scrip has marked 14s. Dutch 7½ per cent. have been 15s. 1d., the 4 per cent., 10½. Brazilian 5 per cent., Peruvian 4 per cent., 9½.

The operations in the railway share market have been on a very moderate scale, yet, on the whole, as the traffic receipts continue to increase, they have been fairly supported.

—Jamaica 5 per cent. has been 18s. 6d. at full quotation.

Miscellaneous securities are, to-day, firm. Princess Royal, 3½ per cent., 18s. 6d. Bank of England, 3 per cent., 18s. 6d. India Telegraph, 3½, Royal Mail Steam, 6½, China Government, 4 per cent., 14s. New South Wales 5 per cent., 18s. 6d. and 19s. 6d.

—The bond is now marked 18s. 1d.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Very moderate supplies of English wheat have been received up to our market this week, from Scotland and Ireland, 25. For all kinds, the demand has ruled very inactive, at about 18s. 6d. per cwt.

In French wheat, the show of which has fallen off—only a limited business has been done, on former terms.

We have had a steady inquiry for both barley and malt, at fully previous rates. Oats have been less active, on former terms. Barley and malt have realised full quotations, but the demand for malt has continued wholly in retail, at the previous rates.

—Wheat, 18s. 6d. Scotch, 18s. 6d. and 19s. 6d. Barley, 18s. 6d. Malt, 28s. 6d. to 30s. 6d. Frogs, 18s. 6d. to 20s. 6d. Potatos, 28s. 6d. to 31s. 6d. Tick Beans, 18s. 6d. to 20s. 6d. Gray Peas, 30s. to 32s. Maple, 40s. to 45s. Bollers, 40s. to 45s. per quarter. Town made Flour, 38s. to 40s. Town households, 32s. to 35s. Country Marks, 28s. to 30s. per quarter.

—The supply of beasts has rather increased, and the demand for most breeds has ruled very active, at, in some instances, a slight decline in value. Sheep have sold briskly, at an advance of 10s. to 12s. per head.

—Cattle.—The supply of cattle has been steady, but the demand for most breeds has ruled very active, at, in some instances, a slight decline in value. Sheep have sold briskly, at an advance of 10s. to 12s. per head.

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CHUBB'S STREET-DOOR LATCHES.

CHUBB'S FIRE-PROOF CASH AND DEEP BOXES.

CHUBB'S FIRE-PROOF CLOTHES AND DEEP BOXES.

PARLIAMENTARY STATEMENT OF THE PRESENT STATE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

PUBLISHED ON SATURDAY.

32-501 INHABITANTS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, AS RETURNED BY THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL IN 1851.

OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IS A LITTLE MORE THAN
SEVEN MILLIONS—

ND WALES, 4,717,013; IN SCOTLAND, 705,909; IN IRELAND, 1,590,000.

This line is a proportionate scale of 7,000,000 Inhabitants.

ERS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IS LESS THAN
ONE MILLION.

This line is a scale of 1,000,000 Population.

HS, WHICH EACH RETURN 2 MEMBERS TO PARLIAMENT, CONTRASTED

Leeds.	Edinburgh.	Bristol.	Wolverham.	Greenwich.	Bradford.	Newca.-Tyne	Kn.-on-Hull.	St.-on-Trent.	Belfast.	Oldham.	Portsmouth.	Limerick.	Brighton.	Preston.	Norwich.	S.
Pop. 172,270	Pop. 163,302	Pop. 137,328	Pop. 119,748	Pop. 105,784	Pop. 103,778	Pop. 87,784	Pop. 84,690	Pop. 84,027	Pop. 80,081	Pop. 72,357	Pop. 72,096	Pop. 69,733	Pop. 69,673	Pop. 69,512	Pop. 68,195	Pop.
Elec. 6,406	Elec. 6,230	Elec. 12,518	Elec. 3,587	Elec. 6,308	Elec. 2,683	Elec. 5,269	Elec. 5,221	Elec. 4,778	Elec. 3,282	Elec. 1,890	Elec. 3,332	Elec. 1,920	Elec. 3,675	Elec. 2,854	Elec. 5,390	Elec.

ONS OF COUNTIES, WHICH EACH RETURN 2 MEMBERS TO PARLIAMENT, CONTRASTED.

the Represented Towns and Boroughs. It should be stated that the County of Hereford returns 3 Members.

Middlesex.	Mayo.	Tyrone.	Kent, W.	Devonshire.	York, N.R.	Roscommon.	Wexford.	Chester, N.	Suffolk, E.	Kent, E.	Norfolk, E.	Surrey
Pop. 283,256	Pop. 274,830	Pop. 251,915	Pop. 227,637	Pop. 217,884	Pop. 173,690	Pop. 171,787	Pop. 157,151	Pop. 156,177	Pop. 152,483	Pop. 151,666	Pop. 151,231	Pop. 151,231
Elec. 11,610	Elec. 1,738	Elec. 7,423	Elec. 9,379	Elec. 9,569	Elec. 11,319	Elec. 2,490	Elec. 5,582	Elec. 7,494	Elec. 6,343	Elec. 7,119	Elec. 8,216	Elec.
Cumberl. E.	Leicester, S.	Louth.	Longford, Ir.	Wilts, N.	Notts, N.	Northam. N.	Warwick, S.	Northamp. S.	Leicester, N.	Carmarthen.	Northumb. S.	Surrey
Pop. 76,699	Pop. 78,416	Pop. 79,094	Pop. 82,350	Pop. 86,024	Pop. 86,825	Pop. 88,129	Pop. 88,776	Pop. 88,922	Pop. 91,308	Pop. 91,398	Pop. 94,689	Pop. 94,689
Elec. 5,352	Elec. 5,131	Elec. 2,117	Elec. 2,148	Elec. 4,955	Elec. 3,801	Elec. 3,900	Elec. 3,980	Elec. 4,568	Elec. 4,097	Elec. 4,791	Elec. 5,369	Elec.

ONATE SCALE OF THE POPULATION, WHICH RETURNS 330 MEMBERS.

ITION OF ABOUT 1,500,000, AND A CONSTITUENCY OF NOT MORE THAN 180,000, WHILE THE CONSTITUENCY OF THE METROPOLIS, WHICH RETURNS ONLY 16 MEMBERS, IS 160,000!!!

E SCALE. THE POPULATION OF 26,333,500, WHO ARE REPRESENTED BY ONLY 326 MEMBERS.

BOBOUGHS WHICH EACH RETURN TWO MEMBERS.